

BENGAL and MADRAS

PAPERS

Vol. I

1870-88

Imperial Record Dept.

Calcutta

PREFACE

The Bengal and Madras Papers contained in this collection, comprising three volumes, are divided into two groups, viz:—

- (i) the earlier portion ranging from 1671—1746 recounting the growth of the British power in India; and
- (ii) the latter portion ranging from 1746—1785, throwing added light on the career of Lord Clive in India.

The documents were collected from the Madras Record Office by the late Sir G. W. Forrest as Officer in charge of the Records of the Government of India about the year 1891. These were supplemented by extracts obtained from the records of the Bengal Government preserved at the India Office, London. The Papers were printed in Calcutta almost simultaneously. A press-list of the second portion covering a part of the second and the whole of the third volume has been compiled and printed by the Imperial Record Department. The late Sir G. W. Forrest was permitted to utilise these papers in a collection of original documents bearing on the life of Lord Clive which was to have appeared in the Laman Records Series published under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council. Sir G. W. Forrest died before that project had materialised. In order to make the historical material which he had collected available for the use of students, the Government of India have decided that a certain number of copies of the Bengal and Madras Papers shall be distributed, unbound, free to Record Offices, Universities and other learned institutions in India and in England. Bound volumes of these and of the press-list mentioned above are available for sale at the office of the Manager, Government of India Central Publication Branch, Calcutta.

A. F. M. ABDUL ALI,
*Keeper of the Records of the
Government of India.*

IMPERIAL RECORD DEPT,
Calcutta, the 12th March 1928.

Irregular Entries and Expences brought to Acco^t in Hugly and Ballasore bookes No. G. H. I. and K. Viz.

Bookes No. G. beginning y^e 21st October 1604 and ending y^e 30th Nover 1605 is 13 months and ⁹/₁₀
Mr. Wm. Blake Cheife.

5. Robert Elwes hath creditt by charges Gennerall Rups. 1167: 5¹/₄ annas amongst which there is Rups. 402: 10 ans. said to bee for provisions for seamed to goe down from Ballasore with y^e goods to secure them from y^e Gelliars.

* This I suppose to bee a mistake in regard there is noe danger of Gelliars between Ballasore and y^e place of y^e shipp's rideing in that road. Also y^e expense of servants' wages brought to his creditt in said parsell for one month is very unreasonable being noe less than Rups. 486: 1 an. but of his more hereafter see that in his parsell there is only recharged y^e mistake beforementioned of Rup.

0,402: 10

5. Cash hath creditt by acts. of ffreight Rups. 2,006 paid in part for carring of 2,568 baggs of peeter and other parsells of goods from Hugly to Ballasore on board the shipp's w^{ch} I estimate to cont. 2 mds. y^e parsell is 5,126 mds. and in y^e same journall parsell Robert Elwes hath also creditt by accompt of ffreight Rup. 300 paid by him in full for ffreight of y^e said 2,568 parsells or 5,136 mds. But it is not mentioned to whome paid, how many Rups. 100 mds. or how many boates were employed in carring said goods, to which I answer y^e y^e rate is very unreasonable, first for—in y^e Pattana bookes I finde y^e Comp^{rs} peeter cost from thence to Hugly but from 10¹/₂ to 16 rup p 100 mds. and yett y^e hazrd greater and y^e distance as farr as betweene Hugly and Ballasore. And ? ordinary freight from Hugly to Ballasore is but from 11 to 13 rup p 100 mds. soe allowing the medium price is 12 rup at which price 5,136 mds. amts. to rup 616: 5 an. and y^e Company are overcharged in his freight Rups.

1,683: 11

11. Narrandas hath creditt in atta by charges—for his wages for a twelve month Rups. 336. How far his allowance I find noe consultason or reason given for y^e same, But I finde y^e he was a person imployed and intrusted by Mr. Blake wth y^e charge of y^e Company's warehouses which being soe contrary to order—Mr. Blake ought to make good his charge beeing Rups.

0,336

- Ditto Narrandas in y^e same journall parsell hath credtt Rups. 852: 9 ans. for imbaling severall goods which appears to be overrated according to what is charged in fol. 43 of this journall Rups.

0,416: 03

Heere are severall goods brought to accompt and made—at extraordinary prices but not mencioned of whome received, as cotton yarne, stick-lack, sannoes and salt peetre (but of y^e salt peetre) more in y^e following parrageafe and for their payment severall goods and—? hath creditt. The said cotton yarne &c.—? month of february is brought to Acco as deare—Hugly and Ballasore bookes G. continued. Rups.

0 . 8

Although Mr. Blake in severall of his letters to y^e Com^y advise that goods are dearer by 40 or 50 p^{er} cent. after the shipp^s arrivall then in february and other months after there departure see these goods that is to say y^e cotton yarne, stick-lack and sannoes are overratedRups.

0 0 0

15. The salt peeter brought to Acco^t in y^e parsell above mentioned is 57 mds. 16 sr. at Rw. 4⁵/₈ p^{er} mds. amts. rw. 237: 11 ans. the Comy.'s double refined peetre at Pattana cost this yeare but about 1 rw. p^{er} mds. and Rw. 1: 2 ans. and—maunds. Butt allowing Rup. 1¹/₂ p^{er} mds. and 4 ans. for freight from Pattana to Hughly (although it is not 3 ans. p^{er} mds.). The se. 51 mds. 168 sr. at rw. 1³/₄ p^{er} mds. (am but unto rw. 89: 15 ans. so y^e Company are overchargedRups.

60,147 12 0

17. In this journall folio there is in like manner as before mentioned a parcell of sannoes and Taffities brought to Acco^t Rec^d in Hughly clear^d of all charges (my^e m^y of March) but not mentioned of whome bought y^e said Taffities being ordinary are rated from 4¹/₄ to 5¹/₂ rup. p^{er} peetre, which is a verry extravagant rate. The Comps. ordinary Taffataies this yeare at Cassumbazar cost but from rw. 2: 8 ans. to 4 rups. p^{er} peece soe y^e allowing y^e medium of s^d prices is rup. 3: 4 and p^{er} peece at which rate 2,880 peeces Taffataies amo^t to Rups. 9,360:—And as they stand rated in y^e bookes they cost Rups. 14,709: 2 ans. soe y^e overcharge is Rups. 5,349: 2 ans. As touching the sannoes they are rated from 3¹/₂ to 5 rups. p^{er} peece. In which price I doubt not but y^e Company are much wronged as my^e Taffataies before mentioned and hence the overcharge is Rups. 1,608 soe y^e overrate on y^e Taffataies and sannoes isRups.

06,957 0

17. Tuttinage, Lead, &c., hath credit and are delivered at an under rate for payment of y^e above mentioned Taffataies and sannoes there being but 32 rups. p^{er} maunds brought to acco^t for 15¹/₂ mds. of Tuttinage and 3³/₄ rups. p^{er} yards. for the Broadcloth and in the preceedeing bookes K Jorll. fol. 50 Tuttinage is there sold at 34 rw. p^{er} md. soe there is brought short amt. for y^e Tuttinage rw. 308: And—y^e Broadcloath in fol. 15 of this journall it is there sold at rups. 4¹/₂ and 4 rups. p^{er} yard and my^e following parcell but one Broadcloath is there sold for ready money at rups. 6 p^{er} yard—soe that accompting y^e 300 yards at 4¹/₂ rups. p^{er} the Company are allowed short 450 rups. and in y^e Tuttinage and Broadcloath—the Company are damagedRups.

00,758 00

18. Soe heere y^e reasonableness brought to acco^t for James prices ? at Decca which for his owne wages charges punes—? but rups. 40 p. mo. by which may be soone the—? made by Mr. Blake unto Tho: Pratt Employ'd—? or Ag^t. and Councells ord^e. or consultacon for y^e same—

19. Hullushawe hath credit by salt peeter for 768 mds. 8 sr. twice refined at rw. 2¹/₂ p^{er} mds. and at Pattana y^e Comps. double refined peetre with charges to Hughly cost this yeare but rw. 1: 12 ans. p^{er} maund soe y^e 768 mds. 8 above mentioned is overrated . . . Rups.

00,576 02

20. Robert Elwes hath credit by salt peetre for charges thereon rw. 101: 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ans. but noe mencon is made how y^e sd expence did arise, his credit also by Boates, is much after y^e same manner—
21. Pattana Factory is charged to cash Rups. 146 $\frac{1}{2}$ vidzt. for 5 yds. scarlett 21 rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ yard. 2 sword blades 14 rw. and 6 crith knives at rw. 27 : and all which is very extravagant.
22. Cash hath credit by Thomas Pratt for severall—? to be bought but not mentoned of whome bought and sent to Decca to present the Nabob and his officers which—? consist of Looking glasses, knives—? wine &c. amo to Rups. 1,879: 4 ans. all which—? are rated at most extravagant prices Mr. Blake being y^e—? of whome they were bought, and further there is noe assurance y^t all was sent y^t is placed to accot in y^e Comps. bookes. And if upon examinacon it shall appeare that they were sent, yett y^e over rate is Rupees—
31. Narrandas hath credit by sloop goods, intent for seamen dyett, severall months and in y^e moth of September here is placed to accot rw. 1,088: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ans. for y^t moth expence, wth I apprehend to bee a great mistake at leaste 1,000 rups. too much in a proporcon to y^e charge of y^e Madras pinate for sd moth.
Rw. 1,000 0
32. D^r Narrandas hath credit by accot of ffreight Rups. 2,447: 09 $\frac{1}{2}$ and for y^e hire of a country shipp of 5,000 maunds to bring downe salt peetre &c. from Hughly and in fol. 41 of this journall y^e s^d Narrandas hath credit by accot of ffreight Rups. 285: 5 ans. said to be paid seamen dyett of this hired shipp, soe y^e whole is Rups. 2,732: 14 ans. I cannot apprehend y^t as his time there was any necessity for freighting of this vessell in regard the Comps. owne sloopes and pinnaces might have performed the worke, y^e seamen dyett and wages being monthly brought to accot. But allowing that there was reason for freighting the s^d vessell yett the ordinary freight is but 12 rw. $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 mds. at which rate y^e 5,000 mds. amount to rw. 600 soe y^e overrate is
Rups. 2,132 14
33. Hughly Merch^{ts} hath credit by Taffataies for 600 peeces fine at 12 rw. $\frac{1}{2}$ peece but the namess of those Hughly merch^{ts} are not menconed. The Comps. fine Taffataies y^e former yeare at Cassumbazar cost but Rups. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$, 9 and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ peece except some few superfine at higher prices at 2, 3, or 4 peeces of a sort as in y^e bookes 166 $\frac{1}{2}$ jourⁿ fol. 4 and 5 will appeare. But allowing y^e said 600 peeces above mentioned to cost 9 rw. $\frac{1}{2}$ peece then y^e overrate is 3 rw. $\frac{1}{2}$ peece wth amot to—?
35. Proffitt and Losse is charged to sundry accq^{ts} for Broad cloath, quicksilver, and vermillion found wanting out of y^e sloop Intent at her arrivall at Hughly, all amo^t to Rups. 558: 15. The Company are not sattisfyed, y^t the seamen and others intrusted in this Boate were not caused to give sattisfaccon and my^e future doe expect y^t more care bee taken in matters of y^e like nature and y^e persons into whose custody they shall bee comitted if any want found that then in such case they make full sattisfaccon for the said wants.

36. Salt peetre 6,110 maunds twice boyled brought to acco^t and said to bee brought in Hughly cleare^d of all charges at rw 3 : 4 ans. $\frac{1}{2}$ maunds amo^t to rups. 19,837 : 8 ans. but it is not menconed of whome bought. The twice boyled peetre at Pattana accounting y^e highest price doth not cost $1\frac{3}{4}$ rw $\frac{1}{2}$ md. charges of freight &c. to Hughly Included. Butt allowing rw $1\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ maund yett y^e 6,110 mds. will amo^t to but Rups 10,692 : 8 ans : see y^e Company are overcharged in s^d parcell . . . Rups.

9,265

Also in the preceeding parcell fol. 36 there is 1,050 peeces fine Taffataies brought to accomp^t in like manner as before mentoned at rw 11 : 8 ans. $\frac{1}{2}$ peece. And at Cassumbazar y^e medium price of the Comps fine Taffataies bought last yeare cost but Rups. $8\frac{1}{4}$ as before mentoned in fol. 33 but allowing 9 rups $\frac{1}{2}$ peece yett y^e 1,050 peeces before mentoned are over-rated Rups. $2\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ peece which amounts to . Rups.

2,6 5

Now for paymt of s^d peetre and Taffataies, Broadcloth is delivered att 4 rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ yard, fine scarlett at 12 rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ yard, And yett y^e Company are charged 20 rw. $\frac{1}{2}$ yard for what given in presents. Lead 9 rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ maund, and quicksilver 3 rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ seere.

41. Bullamaleek hath creditt by salt peetre Rups. 830 : 3 and for 4,151 peeces gunnies at 5 gunnies $\frac{1}{2}$ rup. But how those gunnies were disposed or what occasion for y^e same is not mentioned, see that uptill such time as Mr. Blake can give good sattisfaction touching the s^d gunnies disposure hee ought to be chargeable therewith . . . Rups.

830 03

• Lead ?

42. Tcad hath creditt by Hughly Merch : at ru $8\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ md. w^{ch} is halfe a rupee less then any sold, Broadcloth at rup 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard, And quicksilver and vermillion at $3\frac{1}{2}$ rups. $\frac{1}{2}$ seere in all w^{ch} ye Company are damaged rup. 11.

43. Narrandas hath creditt by proffitt and loose rups. 408 : 3 ans. for Interest of severall sumes of monie said to bee taken up for supply of Ballasore ffactory at severall times to this I answer I doe not finde any money taken up as specified in y^e journall nor any reason for s^d allowance being . . . Rw.

408 03

D^o. Narandas hath creditt for sevⁿ particulars, s^d to be bought by him for presents ru. 42 : $\frac{1}{2}$ amongst which there is charged 5 rup. for one amber hafted knife, by which with other particule more at large drawne out may bee seene the unreasonable rates brought to acco^t for foyes, &c.

44. Charges Generall is charged to sundry acco^t for $12\frac{3}{4}$ yds. perpetnan and $1\frac{1}{2}$ maund cotton wooll said to bee used, but not menconed how or upon what occasion y^e same was expended and y^e like practice is used in many other perticulers not before noted. In the future it is expected y^t a sattisfactory acco^t be given my^e journall parcell, for all expences or otherwise of this or y^e like nature.

An acco^t of y^e charges and expences brought to acco^t in booke No. G. beginning y^e October 1664 and ending y^e 30th Nover 1665 is 13 months 9 days.

Presents given away (over and above y^e 6,000 rups. extorted by y^e Govern^r of Hughly for 2 yeares) in severall particulers R^w. 3,262 14: and presents brought to acco^t and said to be disposed by Thomas Pratt at Decca rups. 1,957: 12: and off y^e presents before menconed severall particulers are said to be bought am^t to rups. paper apart w^{ch} are placed to acco^t at extraordinary prices. Charges Generall cleared by proffitt and Loss Rups. 17,926: 9½ ans. of w^{ch} there is for dyett (as in fol. (15) Rups. 2,140: 00

Soe there remaynes Rs. 15,856 9½ an out of which deduct rups. 747 for the thirds of sallary paid and placed to acco^t of charges Generall there rests rups. 15,109: 9½ ans. being for servants wages travelling expences &c. the extravagany of which will best appeare from y^e booke of particulers. Rups. 15,109: 00

At per rupee amounts to £2,808-15-05 besides y^e 3,000 r^w. per anum to y^e Govern^r of Hughly. 22,470: 03

Hughly and Ballasore bookes Litt. ff. begun primo December 1665 and ending 31st August 1666 Mr. Wm. Blake Cheife is 9 months.

3. Cash hath credit by proffitt and Losse for Interest^s to bee allowed Hughly mer^{ch} and Narrandas to which I answer first that y^e Hughly mer^{ch} (or rather Mr. Blakes) credit doth arise by—overrating the Taffataies and saltpetre brought to their credit in bookes No. G. fol. &c. and therefore ought not to bee allowed and as for what allowed Narrandas I cannot apprehend y^e there is reason for y^e same in regard when Narrandas is indebted to y^e Company as usually hee hath bin hee never at any time made allowance for y^e same further severall sumes of money for which his Interest is allowed are extravagant and Irregularly brought to Acco^t and therefore ought not to bee allowed as is before noated in bookes G. The Interest as above w^{ch} the Company ought not to bee charged with is Rups. 00,609 13
9. Taffataies are charged to sundry acco^ts Rups. 7,125:—for 600 fine pcees bought in Barter cleare of all charges in Hughly, but not mencioned of whome bought vizt. 150 at rups. 11½ and 450 at 12 r^w. p^p pcece and y^e same yeare y^e said Taffataies might have bin bought at Casumbazar (where the Company were at y^e charge of mainteyning y^e flactory for rup. 9 p^p pcece soe y^e s^d 600 Taffataies are overcharged Rups. 01,725 00
9. Now the comodities delivered in barter for y^e above mentioned Taffataies were quicksilver and vermillion viz., y^e quicksilver at rups. 3 p^p seere and 593 sr. (seere?) vermillion at rup. 3½ p^p 8 sr. (seere?) To this I answer that for y^e quicksilver it is a very lowe rate, and as for y^e vermillion none hath bin sold at soe low a price either in y^e preceeding or following bookes and in y^e following bookes it was disposed at 4 and 5½ rup. p^p seere soe y^e medium is 4 r^w. 10 ans. p^p seere which makes y^e difference r^w. 14 ans. p^p s^d allowed y^e Company am^t to Rup. 641: 04
12. Mamood Iznauff hath credit by proffitt & Losse rup. 118: 12 ans. for Interest of 2,500 rupees. To this I answer

that the Company were not Indebted to him rup. 200 and whereas hee hath credit for y^e s^d interest it appeares to bee a cleare mistake for that hee should have bin charged herewith hee being Indebted to y^e Company for a sloop sold him which may bee soone discovered by y^e Acco^t soe that Mr. Blake is not onely to bee charged with his mistake of rw. 118: 12 ans. but also y^e like sume which y^e said Mamood Izzuff ought to have allowed y^e Company soe y^e whole mistake is Rups.

237 : 08

13. Proffitt and Losse is charged to Boates, amongst w^{ch} there is a small Bora s^d to bee taken by Mamod Izzuff y^e Govern^r of Ballasore to carry provisions on bord y^e Kings sloopes and by y^t meanes sunck. It is not reasonable that this boate should be thus writt off but charged to y^e s^d Mamoods accomp^t, whoe in all reason ought to sattisfy for y^e same, if that hee hath not already in some other way made Mr. Blake recompence and in such case, then Mr. Blake ought to make good

200 00

13. Bollysin hath credit by proffitt and Losse rup. 10 for soe much (as it is said) to have rec^d. less for quicksilver &c. sold then hee stands charged with. To this I answer that hee bought noe quicksilver or other goods of the Com^{rs}, as is suggested for the originall of his debt doth arise in former bookes by transferring p^{ts} of one Jogos debt to his acco^t to bee paid in 40 daies soe y^t from hence and what before noated from sever^l parcells may bee seene y^e mistakes or falcities of y^e journ^l parcell Rups.

10 00

23. Lead hath credit by acco^t currant for 17½ mds. said to bee wanting in weight without giving any reason how the s^d want did arise. It may bee supposed y^t ye said want did arrise by Mr. Blakes intrusting the warehouse in y^e charge of a Banian contrary to y^e Comps. order soe that untill better sattisfaccon bee given Mr. Blake ought to be charged therewith at 10 rups. maund Rups.

175 00

Interest brought to acco^t in fol. 15 and other places shall be noated at close of the whole business.

Expences brought to acco^t in these bookes for 9 months *vizt*.

23. Charges dyett brought to acco^t Rups. 1,379: 14½

Presents given away rw. 3,976 14 as where-
of rw. 3,000 y^e annual allowance Rups. 3,976: 14

Charges Generall for servants wages coolies
and severall others expences y^e extrava-
gancy of which may bee seene in y^e booke
of Particulars in regard they are not entred
in y^e journall Rups. 5,949: 01½

11,305: 13½

Deduct the annual allowance of . 3,000

Total . 8,305: 13½

Rupees 8,305 : 13 ans. y^e nett expence in 9 mos. at 2086

¶ rw. is £1,038-04: 57—

Hughly and Ballasore Bookes No. I beginning y^e 1st Sept^r. 1666 and ending y^e 31st October 1668 is 2 yeares 2 mos. Mr. W. Blake Cheife.

7. Thomas Pratt hath credit by sundry acco^t Rups. 3,374
y^e principall disb^ursments whereof is rup. 795 : 8
ans. for presents and rup. 2,520 for charges generall for
14 mos. s^d to bee according to agreement but by
whome this agreement is made is not menconed
neither hath y^e agreement bin ever sent for England
y^e remainder of ? credit is for refuse Looking glasses
and sword blades retourned formerly sent by Mr.
Blake for presents. Itt is not reasonable y^t such
allowances should bee made without y^e approbation
of y^e Agent and Councell or consent of y^e Councell in
y^e Bay soe that if this allowance was made (which
is much to bee doubted) yett it being done contrary
to order Mr. Blake ought to make good the same
Rups. 3,374 : 00
8. The Ballance of Pratt's Acco^t. made paid rw. 2314 : 11
ans.
8. Taffataies are charged to quicksilver for 450 peeces
bought in truck for quicksilver but not menconed
of whome bought viz. 150 at 5 rw. 2 ans. 3¹/₂ peece and
300 at 4 rw. 10 ans. 3¹/₂ peece in Cassumbazar as before
noated in bookes G. fol. 17 the said sorts cost mo^e but
rupees 3¹/₂ 3¹/₂ peece And soe y^e 150 peeces are overrated
1 rw. 14 ans. 3¹/₂ peece is rup. 281 : 4 ans and y^e 300
peeces rup. 1 : 6 ans. 3¹/₂ peece or rup—soe y^e principall
overrate is Rupees 693 : 00
- Quicksilver in truck for these Taffataies were delivered
at rw. 3 3¹/₂ seere.
11. Saltpeetre is charged to cash for 165 mds. twice boyled
at rup. 2 : 4 ans. 3¹/₂ maund. The Com^{rs}. twice boyled
peetre at Pattana bookes No. 9—cost but about 1 rw.
3¹/₂ maund but allowing 1 rw : 8 ans. 3¹/₂ maund cleared
of all charges to Hughly, soe y^e above menconed
peetre is overrated 2 rup. 3¹/₂ maund or rup : 103 : 12
ans. and further at this time y^e Company had noe
occasion for salt peetre there being soe great a quantity
remayning at Hughly and Ballasore y^e the overrate
is Rups. 13 12
13. Cash hath credit by charges Generall allowed Thomas
Pratt for his stay and demorage of a vessell forty dayes.
There was noe reason for this allowance for in fol. 7
of this journall it is there menconed that hee was
then discharged Rups. 200 0
14. Cash hath credit by Thomas Pratt his acco^t of time
for rup. 1,500 menconed to bee formerly sent him at
Interest at his proceeding to Decca and afterwards in
fol. 30 of this journall Thomas Pratts acco^t time
hath credit by Thomas Pratt without paying y^e
money. To this I answer that if y^e said money had
bin really lent for y^e Com^{rs} service or with y^e advice
of Councell it would have bin charged when lent and
not sometime after it was noated y^t hee was dis-
charged y^e Comps. service or at least before y^e
time of his flight and y^e Nabobs scizure of his estate
soe y^t in all reason Mr. Blake ought to repay this
money principall as before menconed is Rups. 1,500 0
15. Cash hath credit by presents rw. 400 said to bee given
viz., rw 200 in severalls but what these severalls
are is not mentioned and for y^e other rups. 200 noe

mencon is made whither in specio or not Rup. 400:—

17. Cash hath credit by Profit and Losse rupees 595 said to be exacted by y^e Nabobs officers on acco^t. rend^d of Bandur and Gurhattee y^e—Townes being ruined by a flood and y^e tenants not able to pay there rents. Touching y^e acceptance of these townes and payment of this money (if any such thing was) concerns onely Mr. Blake to allow and not y^e Comp.Rups. 595 0
- Bandure and Gurhattee townes above montoned hath credit by profit and Losse rup. 334. The inhabitants being said to be undone through y^e bad Government of y^e Nabob. These Townes originally being brought to acco^t in lew of goods Debts without any reason given for the same but crowded in by Mr. Blake to secure his own Particular Debts.
17. Therefore this and all other losses arising by these and other Townes ought to be made good by him as also interest for y^e whole debts of s^d Townes from y^e time they are brought to acco^t but y^e credit cleared by profit and Loss is this parcell as before menconed isrups. 334 00
18. Bullion hath credit by cash Rs. 2,649:04 ans. said to be sold y^e 4th November and yett it is not brought to acco^t. untill y^e pro^m may neere six mo^s after sold soe y^e by this abuse of selling silver and other goods and not bringing y^e money to acco^t in a considerable time after causeth a considerable charge of interest to be placed to acco^t in y^e bookes but of this more hereafter.
20. Narrandas hath credit by Charges Generall for wages from the month of November 1665 to March 1667 rup. 784:—but upon what ground or reason this wages is brought to acco^t is not mentioned and in regard no such allowance ought to be made y^e s^d Narrandas Mr. Blake to repay the same Rup 784 .0 (
20. John March hath credit by house of George Edwards for fitting and finishing of s^d house for accomodation of Mr. Blakes family and house of George Edwards is afterwards cleared by Charges Generall, Mr. Blake had noe good reason for putting this charge upon y^e Company there being sufficient accomodacon for him in their own house unless for y^e more private carrying on of his Particular trade and other matters to the Comp^s Damage y^e charge brought to acco^t in this parcell is Rups. 162 14½ 0
21. Cash hath credit by acco^t. Interest Rup. 157:8 ans. allowed after y^e rate of 18 p^{er} cent. p^{er} ann: This interest ought not to be allowed for the reasons sett forth in fol. 18. But allowing 9 p^{er} cent. p^{er} ann: according to y^e rate Mr. Blake paid. And about this time Mr. Blake and others left out their owne money to y^e Comander of the *Greyhound* at 12 p^{er} cent. p^{er} ann: and soe y^e reasoning—according to y^e rate Mr. Blake pd as aforesaid y^e overcharge is Rups. 78 12 0
21. Cash hath credit by Profit and Losse Rups. 323 for Interest allowed Jago. D^e matto for 200 rups. at 18 p^{er} cent. p^{er} ann: from 15th June to y^e 8th May. To this I answer that in y^e foregoing Bookes H this 2,000 rups.

is not brought to acco^t or made received by y^e said Jago untill the last of August from w^h time to y^e 8th May at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. allowing y^e s^d 2,000 rup. to bee regularly taken up amount but unto rup. 122 : 2 ans. soe y^e overcharge is Rup. 201 0

22. Gomorpore Townes hath credit by proffitt and Losse rup. 20 s^d to bee lost by s^d Townes this Mr. Blake to allow for y^e reasons before menconed folio 17 Rupees 20 0

23. Cash hath credit by proffitt and Losse Rs. 117 vizt. 100 rup. of Hiddo Malleck for 5 months 4 dayes rup. 77 : 00 At 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. is but 38 : 08 overcharged Rs. 38 08

1,000 rup. allowed Jogo D^e Matto for Interest for 6 month 20 days rup. 100 : 00 y^e money was brought to acco^t but y^e may soe— but for 2 mos. $\frac{1}{6}$ at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. is but rup. 15 : 12 overcharged Rupees 15 0 soe y^e overrate in these two parcells amount to . Rs. 122 12

25. Cash hath credit by Iron Rup. 24 soe much s^d to bee formerly charged more then rate for 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ maunds. Upon examination I finde noe such parcell in these or y^e former bookes, soe this mistake to bee made good by Mr. Blake 24 0

* 25. Cash hath credit by proffitt and Losse for Interest, vizt. allowed Jogo D^e Matto Int of rup. 1,000 for 6 months 11 days Rup. 100 : 00 Allowed ditto for Interest of 1,000 rupees more . Rs. 95 : 0 . 195 : 00

To this I answer y^t there is only 4 months 11 days due for yee form 1,000 rw. (being recd. $\frac{1}{2}$ May and pd. 1,276 following) w^h at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. $\frac{1}{2}$ an. is 32 : 12 ans. and as touching the latter 100 rup. noe such money was borrowed neither hath he credit in acco^t for y^e same 38 : 12

soe the overcharge in y^e two $\frac{1}{2}$ tells above mentioned Allowed Hiddo Maleck for Inter (interest ?) rw. 1,500 for 7 months 11 days per rw. 165 : 12

Interest of ditto at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. is rw. 82 : 14 overcharged Rupees 82 : 14

Allowed Burnnell for interest rw 2,000 for 2 months 10 days Rs. 46 : 11

Interest of ditto at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. is Rs. 35 : — overcharged Rupees 11 : 11

. in all Rupees 256 : 12

Allowed and made good in acco^t in fol. 26 for an error 100 : — 156 : 13

29. Cash hath credit by Proffitt and Losse p^d Hiddo Maleck for Interest of 500 rw. 10 months at 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. rw. 75

Interest of ditto at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. is but rw. 37 : 8 overcharged 37 : 08

194 : 0 5

30. Agazad hath credit by proffitt and Losse rup. 85 : 8 ans. for 4—of this said to bee borrowed in ans. 1664 for y^e use of the Madrass pinace and throwne overboard in a storme. To this I answer y^t if there was really such a losse (and hee not recompensed some other way) then it ought to have bin brought to acco^t before y^e

yeare 1667 see this parcell to bee further examined wheither y^e s^d Gunns were really borrowed for y^e Comps. Acco^t or Mr. Blakes p^ticular occasions amo^t to Rw.

85 : 08

32. Thomas Pratt his account of time hath credit by Province of Bengall Rup. 1,536 : 01 ans. for severall p^ticulars of his said to be seized for y^e—why y^e s^d Pratts accompt of time should have—of Bengall charged for y^e same is not well to be understood unless Mr. Blake did designe it—y^e see much money was really due to y^e said Pratt on his Acc^t and of time to extinguish y^e said Pratt reall Debt on his acco^t proper for what due from him or rather Mr. Wm. Blake as before is sett forth see his p^ticell to bee drawne off That y^e s^d—may not have credit or occasion a difference between his relatons and y^e Compy when noe such thing is due to him neither is it regular that such matters p^ticule persons should bee brought into y^e Comps. bookes Rs.

1,536 : 01

33. Cash hath credit by proffitt and Losse rup. 350 for Interest of rup. 5,000 for 7 months at 1 p^t et. but allowing 9 p^t cent. p^t an. amt to Rupees. 262 : 8 ans. see the overcharge is Rup.

87 : 08

35. James Price hath credit by Charges Generall for severall expences in procuring Phirmaunds and makeing complaints against y^e Dutch Rups. 1,129 : 8 what order or direccons of—concurrent with those of Mr. Blake for y^e D. M. price continuance and allowance of his expence and what perticuler—or phirmaunds hee procured (for I finde none) for this money Rup.

1,129 : 00

37. Jerome Maleek hath credit by proffitt and Losse rup. 122 : 4 ans. for Interest of money said to bee borrowed of Muddam Maleek. To this I answer that upon examinacion I do not finde any monies to bee borrowed of y^e s^d Muddam neither hath hee any accots in these bookes so y^e mistake is Rup.

122 : 04

Ditto Jerom Maleek hath credit by Thomas Pratt rup. 113 : 10 ans. s^d to bee formerly expended on his vessell. If this money was really thus expended (although its much to bee feared) y^e said Pratt being run away from the Nabob's service and therefore now charged to y^e his accot yett it noe ways concernes y^e Company to allow for y^e time in regard y^e s^d boate was seized for y^e King of India and not applied to y^e Comp^y use Rups.

113 10

38. Cash hath credit by house of George Edwards p^d on acco^t rent this noe wayes concernes the Company to allow in regard the said house was taken for Mr. Blakes p^ticular occasions Rups.

200 0

40. Timbers hath credit by charges Gennerall Rup. 100 for 50 timbers given Jarom Maleek to rebuild his house. The building of his house concerned not the Company and these timbers being thus given by Mr. Blake he ought to satisfy for them according to their reall value being at least 60 rw. p^t corge as usually sold amo^t to Rup.

150 0

Expences brought to ~~acco~~^{acco} during the continuance of these Bookes being
two yeares two mos.

40. Presents given away including Rups. 6,000 for the
anuell allowance of rw. 3,000 to y^e Govern of Hughly
or rather y^e King of India rup. 11,218 : 04
charges Diett spent . . . rw. 3,597 : 05½
Charges Generall y^e foote of that acco^t
over and above what charged in journll
folio 40 21,842 : 02½

Rups. 36,567 : 11½ ans. at ½ . . . rupee ?
amo to £4,570-19 : 04

36,567 : 11½

43. Harrichurne hath creditt by Charges Gennerall Rup. 90
for 6 mos. wages 9s. for what reason or service
this allowance was made there being noe necessity for
y^e same Rup. 90 0

Hughly and Ballasore bookes K beginning y^e primo 8th November 1668 and ending
the 31st March 1669 Mr. William Blake Chiefe.

3. James Price hath creditt by Charges Gennerall for 4
mos. wages rup. 160 ;—and rup. 700 for a Phirmaund
to cleare them of all customes which y^e Nabob
ordered to bee exacted I finde noe consultacon for
payment of this wages or allowing rup. 700 for pro-
curing a new Phirmaund soe y^e untill better sattis-
faccan bee given as to y^e necessity and payment of
this money it ought not to be allowed . . . Rups.
4. Cash hath creditt by acco^t paid in part for two porgoes
lading of salt peetre g^t 2,000 māunds at 10 ans. ½
maund g^t, if this salt peetre was carried from
Hughly to Ballasore or from Ballasore to y^e coast of
Cormandell.
5. —hath credit by salt peetre for 386 maunds Ballasore
at 2½ rw. ½ maund but allowing 1½ rw. ½ maund
which is more then it was at Pattana wth y^e
charges from thence to Hughly.
13. Mullusham hath credit by 600 maunds trebble refined
peetre at rw. 4½ ½ maund there was noe occasion for
buying this salt peetre but allowing 2 rups. ½
maund which is more then it will cost from Pattana
wth all charges it is overcharged or at best an
unnecessary charge of 2½ rup. ½ maund w^{ch} amo^t
to Rup.
Antonio Dorgoes hath creditt by salt peetre rw. 1,158 :
13 ans. for 485 maunds 35 s^r of peetre but allowing
1½ rup. ½ maund it amo^t to rup. 850-4½ soe y^e
Company pay an extraordinary rate of . . . Rup.
14. Mohbutt Caune hath creditt by salt peetre
viz. 482 mds. 28 s^r trebble refined
peetre at 4 rw. ½ md. rup. 1,930 : 12½
At 2 rup. ½ maund it will amount to but Rs. 965 : 6½

860 0

1,350 0

308 08½

Rated at more then cost from Pattana . . . 965 : 06½
931 maunds twice boyled peetre at rw.
3 : 4 as. ½ maund amo^t to . . . rw. 3,025 : 12
Ditto at rw. 1½ ½ maunds amo^t to
but rw. 1,629 : 4

1,396 : 04

- These two parcells cost more then it might have bin bot.
for at patt. Rw. 2,362 11½
16. Cash hath creditt by acct sallary where amongst y^e
ffactors wages is crowded in rup. 75 said to bee paid.
Herrochurne a native of y^e country for 5 months
sallary this y^e Company ought not to be charged
with Rup. 75 00
- Cash hath creditt by house of George Edwards rup. 100 for
5 mos. rent for Mr. Blake, also in fol. 4 is charged
rup. 17 : 8 as. all which y^e said Mr. Blake ought to
make satisfaccion for Rup. 117 08
16. Cash hath creditt by Charges Generall for 5 mos. sallary
paid to Parbooty rw. 50 which y^e Company ought not
to bee charged with all 9 also rw. 50 s^d to bee paid
y^e country Doctor for physick for Mr. Blake which
is together Rups. 100 00
16. Salt peetre hath creditt by profit and Losse for 301 mds.
15½ s^r s^d to bee lost by long lying in thatcht ware-
houses. Why this loss should bee charged in regard
every individuall bagg of peetre upon its receipt is
broadg to acco^t to y^e : 2 mds. and upon sending
sd. peetre for y^e fort or England each bagg is In-
voyced to g^t maunds as brought to acco^t afores^d
soe y^e unless there had bin a reall want in y^e number
of baggs of peetre, there is noe reason for this charge.
But that on y^e contrary Mr. Blake ought to satisfy
for y^e same in regard hee intrusted y^e natives of
ye country with y^e Companies warehouse contrary
to order y^e loose cleared as above amoth to . . . Rups. 620 : 0 2½
18. Chim Cham hath creditt by account Interest Rup. 1,417:
08 as. at 1½ % cent. % mo. This ought not to bee
allowed in regards y^e s^d Chim Cham &ct. were
indebited to y^e Company a considerable sume of
money a great part of y^e time for which hee is al-
lowed this interest, and yett hee allowes noe Interest.
And further there was noe reason for allowing 18 %
cent. % an. when Mr. Blake paid but 9 % cent. soe
y^e allowing Interest to bee regularly due yett y^e
overcharge is Rups. 708 : 12 0
18. Why Mr. Thomas Stiles should bee allowed Rup. 368-
8 and for Interest beeing after y^e rate of 18 % cent.
% an. when y^e natives lett out their money at 9 %
cent. but however allowing him 12 % cent. hee ought
to repay Rups. 120 : 0 8

Expences brought to acco^t during the continuance of these Bookes being 5
mds. viz :-

18. Charges Dyett	Rupces	700 : 0 9
Presents		600 : 0 8
Charges Generall Servants wages &ct.		5,351 : 11 0
	Rupees	6,652 : 12

Rupees 6,652 : 12 as. at 2-8 6 % rup amo^t to
£ 831 : 11 : 10.

Interest brought to acco^t over and above what before
menconed allowed unto Chim Cham and Mr. Thomas
Stiles Rup. 4,361 : — After y^e rate of 15 % cent. % aⁿⁿ
to 24 % cent. % an. but allowing—y^e overrate in this
% tell is Rupees.

HUMP: EDWIN & AUDE.

February 22nd, 1670-71.

Ballasore, 12th October 1673.

MR. MATH^w HERNE.

Worthy and much honoured Sir,

I beg your pardon for my 'giving you the trouble' of these lines being altogether a stranger to you, yet your worthiness encourageth my necessitie to seek to you for redress haveing lately received very hard usage in Bengall. I have served the Hono^{ble} Company in Decca neer five years and about eight months since, having some particular service to doe for M^r Vincent, when done proved not to his content, upon which though my actions to him were just as I am ready to make appear, he took up a resolution not to rest satisfied till he wrought my ruine, though it cost half that he himself was worth as he hath declared to many in Bengall. Soon after upon his arrival at Ballasore haveing great influence on M^r Clauvell he prevailed with him to send one to preceed me with an order in his pocket for my departure thence within ten daies, knowing that (after five yeers residence in a place and my estate being small and scattered abroad in those P^{ts}.) was the readie way to work my ruine, and indeed they have not much been 'shortned in expectation; nor doe I know how they intend to proceed in this not reasonable but malicious design and have cause to fear though not what they justly doe to me yet the envy and power of those who have already gone so far; and they have made M^r Hervey second in Decca who manageth all affairs there, (a known athist, one that denieth that there is either God or Divell which suppose you need not information of it being so comonly known by all people). He makes it his business not onely to ruine my P^{rticular} concern there but makes all debts bad that stand out for acco^{ts} of the Hono^{ble} Comp^y, thereby to ruine my reputation as well as estate. It canot be supposed that such things are for their interest as spoiling any P^{rt}. of there estate to bring the P^{erson} that managed it into disesteem; and rather then fail in carrying on of this design of M^r Vincent, they blame mee as being the cause of the piscash given the Nabab last year, notwithstanding the good success, it pleased God, I had in the managem^t of it, tho' I confess there had been no need of a piscash nor had our master's business impeed had not Mr. Clauvell at that time joined with the Dutch Director and refused to see the Governor when he was goeing to Decca, tho' he stayed two daies in expectation of a little out of Hughly, and had M^r Clauvell made use of this opportunity our masters affairs might have gone in a better channell then they have done or are like to doe. The Governor then quarrelling with so strong an enemy as the Dutch, was necessitated and for his own interest would then have done more for the English then otherwise wee could or can expect, but finding us so much concerned with the Dutch he made his complaints as much against us as the Dutch, and ones business mett not with more stop then the others, had wee kept ourselves out as wee might have done. Our masters affairs would have been better not.....by what hapned to the Dutch—M^r. Vincent sends not in his motive towards mee, but he by endeavouring force money from several of the servants of Cassumbazar unjustly, as it is reported for himself not the Hono^{ble} Company hath killed an native; which hath altogether cost our masters rup^s 10,000, and if it cost no more yet doth so incence the natives that they will watch all oportunities to force money from us. I wish the height of his pride end here that our hono^{ble} masters nor thee servants suffer more by it though 'tis much to be feared.

What for my own part I have acted since imployed in the service, I think you had as full a sight of as they here, and I appeal to yourself whether or not from any just cause of neglect or els in my master's affairs either as to investments made or other I was dismissed of the imployment, I was then in at Decca, if not then beg you'l please to endeavour my resettlement there that I may secure my master's estate and my own things, and I may not for any

by end of theirs suffer unjustly both in my estate and reputation at once, in which you will ever oblige

Sir,

Your troubled and necessitated but
faithful and humble servant,

JOHN SMITH.

P. S.—At that time when they called me from Decca M^r. Clauvell and M^r. Vincent gave private order at Hughly detaining my goods have done accordingly.

By—The Court of Committees hold on the 13th day of August 1675.

Resolved, that noe person whatever or other than such as are freemen & adventurers in the general joint stock of this Company or owners of shipping in joint stock, be permitted to send out on the Companies shipping any bullion or treasure in gold or silver. That order shall be sent for the Coast of Chormandal or Bay of Bengala.

By—The Court of Committees hold on the 24th day of November 1675.

It is ordered, that all persons who are permitted to expect bullion or treasure on the Companies shipping for the Coast and Bay doe signe the Affirmaton following, *viz* :—

I. A. B., by the oath I have taken as a freeman of the East India Comp^y doe declare that the above said treasure to be transported is for my own proper acco^t, and that noe other persons either hath or shall have directly or indirectly any share or interest therein; and that the proceed and profit thereof is to be invested in India, and to be brought home for my own proper adventure and accom^p^t, and that the profit thereof in England is to be for my own proper accom^p^t.

And that Samuel South doe receive sure subscriptions and file them on a file and enter them in a book for that purpose; and take care to examⁿ whether the said person or persons so subscribing that note be at present an adventurer or adventurers in the generall joint stock and free of the Company & under the usual vote of freemen; and that finding them so qualified he doe them give him or them a note directed to the Cashire to receive freight & permission to lade the same treasure, and that the Cashire do not receive or give receipt or testify for any freight or permission before he have sure note to warrant him therein. And that all, in the general joint stock since the 18th of August—entries as aforesaid shall, besides the affirmation abovesaid from henceforth affirm That the adventures by them bought such a day are really and *bona fide* for their own proper acco^t & for the acco^t of noe other person whatsoever.

And it is also ordered that Mr. Sprigg and his assistant doe not permit any entries of gold or silver at the Custom House by any Comand^r Officer or seaman for their own acco^t or for the acco^t of any, the owners of shipping bound for India, nor to be shipt on board without special order of Court.

And it is further ordered that the Committees for the Treas^r the delivery of any diamonds or other fine goods that shall come from India consigned to any freemen require and take an affirmaton under their hands declaring that the said diamonds or other goods are for their own proper acco^t or that they declare for whose acco^t they are, to the end the Comp^y may not be defrauded of the 4 th p^t C^t. ins. from foreigners at freight & permission for lading the same.

Resolved that all persons being freemen and advent^{er} be permitted to ship out for the Coast & Bay to the value of what their principal stock paid in amounts unto & noe more, so as their said stock exceed not £1,000; and when any advent^{er} stock exceeds that summ, yet they shall not be p^{er}mitted to send out more than one thousand pounds.

Richard Edwards in my presence and M^r Coles dec^d had called you damned dogg, also many other reproachfull names, because you write to the Hon^{ble} Company and divers p^{er}sons at the Coast that you could produce Taffaties and other goods at much lower rates then M^r M^r charged att which hee saide hee knew to be greate lies. The aforesaid p^{er}son allsoe, George Kinpe a short time after wee heard fire at Ballasore, examined who suffered by it, but when they heard, that you escaped great loss they wished you had been utterly ruined by it. I assure you these are no untruth. I believe you remember when you was here last R. E.'s malice towards you by the gross language hee gave you which has not been lost (it is reported to mee amongst his debauched companions).

Richard Edwards has for many months since hee has been here taken Bramines wife for his companion which when her husband heard of or some other relacons, they complained to Bulchund, the Nabobb Governour at Muxadavad, who sett p^{er}sons upon our ffactory doore and demanded us to deliver her up, but though that was not granted presently yet were they forced to comply therewith and the woman putt into irons & R. E. by relation of those that at that time were here (for I was not) say hee was in danger of his life and afraid to stier out. After Bulchand had examined the woman, hee demanded a very considerable summe for that offence more than R. E. could produce, wherefore his demand was not complied with, it being no concern of the Hon^{ble} Comp^{any}, but our merchants here who had greate acquaintance with Bulchand informing the said p^{er}son the nature of the business and that hee was the Comp^{any} servant that did it without their approbacon, as allsoe though often (slave-like) attendance of M^r Edwards on said Governour to pleade for himselfe together with presents given the aforesaide Governour which is pretended were given upon our employers acco^{unt}, but it may be suspected for the other insomuch that hee demanded afterwards R. 1,300 which R. E. would not consent to; whereupon the said Governour threatned to make it knowne to the Nabobb of Dacca, to prevent which R. E. proffered him a certaine summe but it was not accepted of; after the said Governours return from Dacca our people invited him (M^r Vincent being then att Ballasore) whom hee tolde hee had very much defended in the former business and that hee would not take less then Rup^{ee} 1,100 which if they would not pay, hee said he would force a greater fine from them; therefore to avoide a greater damage that might ensue upon M^r M^r disbursed the said summe, a short time after (R. E. being impoverished by his ill courses almost) and piscashed Bulchand that day notwithstanding hee confessed to be satisfied yet hee refused to give us assurance under his hand that wee should not be molested hereafter upon that acco^{unt}, soe that whenever hee findes noe other way to gett money from our Masters, it is to be doubted hee will use that. I suppose you have read some small relacon of this business in the Comp^{any} Generall upon hence to Ballasore.

as Since hee heard of Major Puckles coming hither hee hath sent the Bramines wife to Hughly with an intend (it is related mee) to marry her to whome hee can as G. K. hath done with his, but near her departure shee saide he would not put her off soe and called him many scornefull names, saying that hee had beene the undoing of her and that she would seeke redress by making Bulchund acquainted thereof, again as allsoe greater trouble then heretofore if hee would not be contented to enjoy.

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London, 24th December 1675.

Our Agent and Councell at Fort St. George.

Upon the commendation you give us of Mr. Job Charnock wee have resolved that for his incouragement during his stay in our service at Pattana to give him £20 P ann^m as a gratuitie to commence from the arrival of these ships, and if any alteration shall be made in our factory under your agency somewhat may be done for his further advancement.

* * * * *

As to the charge exhibited by Mr. Hall against Mr. March and Mr. Vincent we find there was ground for it, and if that business has not been already fully examined by Mr. Puckle we doe require that when Mr. Master goes downe (of whom we write you in an after clause) it may be exactly done.

We are informed that our Factory at Cassambazar is frequently visited by Jesuits and Romish priests that goe up and downe to Mr. Vincent's wife and family which wee require to be wholly refrained if he stay and remain in our service. And if Mr. Vincent shall be found to have any hand in the death of Rugo Potdar or accessary thereunto, or has been unfaithful in the discharge of his trust, that then he be discharged of our employ^{mt} and sent home.

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London, 15th December 1676.

Our Agent and Councell at Fort St. George.

When we required an acco^t of you of our Chaplains on the Coast and Bay you only tell us if there be any scandall in them & will be wrote us from Metchlep^a and the Bay, as if you were a discharge of your duty; when as wee have made all in those places subordinate to you, and you complayne.

Exd.—T. Y.

[From Public Consultation, Vol. I.]

At a Consultation in Fort St George, y^e 6 February 167³.

Being present. { S^r W^m LANGHORN, *Governour*.
JOSEPH HYMNERS.
EDWARD HERRYS.
JNO. BRIDGER.
TIM. WILKES.

The Hono^{ble} Company having in their letter of 13 December 167² sent us out a charge against Mr. Matthias Vincent, second of y^e Bay consisting of four papers, *viz*, a letter of Mr. Joseph Halls of 12 November to S^r W^m Thomson, and three other letters of his to Mr. Clavell of 4-12-18 ditto, with order in the 9 paragraph of their said letter, to cause it to be strictly examined, and if wee shall find him guilty of what is there layd to his charge, to doe therein as wee shall find to be equall and just, and most for their service.

The Agent and Councell having carefully perused and considered y^e same, doe find great difficulty in y^e execution thereof, in regard y^e Mr. Hall in his said letters does so charge Mr. Clavell, y^e Cheife of y^e Bay, of confederacy with Mr. Vincent, y^e if it be true as he writes, wee shall want some fuller instructions what course to take for y^e due examination thereof. If not true all the rest may be rationally conjectured to be no otherwise, so y^e in this uncertainty wee shall be sure to exasperate y^e partyes against Mr. Hall, but not sure to doe our Hono^{ble} employers any service.

And having since received another paper from y^e said Mr. Hall of 30 Octo^r last, charging Mr. Vincent with y^e death of Rago Podar, and Rup^y 12,000 charges thereon to y^e Governor and under officers at Cassimbazar, by them placed to y^e Hono^{ble} Comp^{te} Accompt w^{ch} y^e Bay Gen^l of 27 Octo^r sayes, was an accidentale quarrell between two of y^e Hon^{ble} Companies servants, and would cost Rup^y 10,000 to compose, but referring us to their fuller advices hereof from Hughly, wee suspend our judgment untill the business be thoroughly examined, and in like manner it is resolved to be for y^e service of our Hono^{ble} employers to suspend y^e examination of y^e said charge untill new orders from them, or advices from y^e Bay, shall direct us how to proceed therein.

JNO. NICKS, *Sec^y*

JNO. BRIDGER.

W. LANGHORN.

J. HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

TIM. WILKES.

At a Consultation in Fort St George, y^e 18 February 167³.

Being present. { S^r W^m LANGHORN, *Governour*.
JOSEPH HYMNERS.
EDWARD HERRYS.
JOHN BRIDGER.
TIM. WILKES.
JACOB SMITH.

Mr. Matthew Manwaring, the second of Metchlop^m, his request of 12th curr^t for moneys due to him from y^e Hono^{ble} Comp^{te} for sallarys, dyett monys, servants, lamps and candles, and w^{ch} upon the offence taken against him by Mr. Richard Mohun for y^e charge brought in against him in the Hono^{ble} Comp^{te} behalf and other pretences has remained unpaid, and

in somethings his accustomed allowance belonging to his place cutt short, and it is thought fitt by the Agent and Councell to write to y^e Chief and Factors at Meteh^m to pay him what due unto him according to the following acco^t by us stated amounting to pag^{da} 436-2-2 if upon due examination they find it to be right stated, and in case they have not money in cash to deliver to him or his order the value in broadcloth, or lead at price curr^t.

As likewise on consideration of y^e endless debates and mutuall aspersions in and from y^e Bay betweene the Chief and Factors there, and their displacing of Mr. Joseph Hall and Mr. John Smith from their places of second of Hughley & Ballasore, and Chief of Decca without orders from hence, there appearing unto the Agent and Councell to be much of private matter in their cases. These fewds having now continued many yeares, especially between Mr. Matthias Vincent and Mr. Joseph Hall to the great disturbance of our Hono^{ble} Employers and their affaires, and of this Agency, who have laboured thus long to reconcile and remove these scandalls & offences, but hitherto in vaine, and finding that it will be to small purpose to send down visitours to examine matters untill the Hono^{ble} Comp^y shall think good to vest us with a power so to quallify and authorise them that they may administoe an oath in cases requiring it, and that the Chief has by the Clauses of Judicature and examining of offences in his Maj^{ties} Charter sufficient authority to administer an oath.

It is resolved to be for y^e Hono^{ble} Comp^y service the quiet and orderly carrying on of their affairs in that Factory, and its subor^{ates} to give these following orders.

That Mr. Joseph Hall be forthwith established Chief in Ballasore during the removall of Mr. Walter Clavell to Hughley, and Chief at Hughley, during y^e said Mr. Clavell's removall to Ballasore.

That Mr. John Smith be forthwith restored to his Chiefship at Decca, and Mr. Ellwayes returned to his Secondship at Pattana, where he is by the Hono^{ble} Company appointed to the succession.

That no Chiefs nor seconds of any of y^e Factorys be displaced or suspended without first transmitting the reasons hither & our order thereupon.

That Mr. John Smith & Sam^l Horny's subscribing the Gen^l Letters and Consultations be disallowed untill order from the Hon^{ble} Comp^y for the same, and that we represent the conveniency of the Chiefs or Chiefs and Seconds at Hughley and Decca to be admitted of Councell as those of Cassumbazar and Pattana are, to the end they may be y^e better capacitated to advise and deliberate wth the Chief, &c, of the Bay about the Hono^{ble} Comp^y affairs under their own management.

That Michael Lovely and Peter Farrill, silk-weavers, and John Griffin, silk-throwster, be sent to y^e Bay by the advice *Pinch* for the Hono^{ble} Comp^y service in Cassumbazar.

That we do allow y^e Chief and Factors in the Bay to take up money at interest for y^e carrying on of the constant yearly Peter business at Pattana and the Talfatys at Cassumbazar, &c, necessary occasions in want of bills exch^d from the Dutch or other supplies.

Remains of acco^{ts} due to Matthew Manwaring:—

Sallary to 31 July 1674	.	.	.	174	14	5
Dyett to 31 May	.	.	.	12	00	0
	} 1674					
Servants wages to 31 May	.	.	.	2	08	0
				189 6 5		
Dyett money from last Feb ^r 167 ³ to last May 1674, fifteen months y ^e difference from 4 to 8 pag ^{da}				60	00	0
Dyett money from last May 1674 to last December 1674, months 7 at 8 pag ^{da}				56	00	7
Five months sallary at 35lb p ^a annum the half from 31 July 1673 to 30 December 1674, 17 months				18	03	3
* Servants' wages, 7 months from last May to last December, at pag ^{da} 2 ¹ / ₂				17	08	0
				341 02 2		
				Transported pag ^{da}		

This is Dubash's wages and not peons.

Brought over pag^{es} . 341 02 2¹

This is according to the acct sent by Mr. Mohun wth the addition of pag^{es} 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ month dyett money. Mr. Manwaring desires over and above this an allowance for peons' wages, pleading that seeing Mr. Mohun would not allow him any of those belonging to the Hon^{ble} Comp^{ee} he was fain to entertain 6, to attend him for their honour at his own charge w^{ch} he requests may be allowed him, alledging the example of Mr. Nicholas, the former Second, who had 10 peons allowed to attend him w^{ch} was not in money but peons effective, wherefore y^e Agent and Councell do not assent thereto without order from the Hon^{ble} Company.

Mem. Wax candles and oyle for lamps w^{ch} if not allowed is due from y^e time that he had no allowance from the Steward at 3 pag^{es} $\frac{1}{2}$ month as $\frac{1}{2}$ the Commissary calculation for 17 months to y^e last December 1674 . . . 51 00 0

Dyett for 5 months $\frac{1}{2}$ that he lay sick at Maddapoll^m from the . . . to . . . at pag^{es} 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ month 44 00 0

436 02 2

All these parcells y^e Chief and Councell at Metch^m are desired to peruse, and if find them right may be made him good accordingly.

JNO. NICKS, *Secretary*.

W. LANGHORN.

J. HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JNO. BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

At a Consultation in Fort S^t George, the 4 June 1675.

(S^r W^m LANGHORN, *Governour*.

JOSEPH HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

Being present }

JOHN BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

†Upon the request of Hodge Mahmud, servant to Mcirza Malick Cassimbeg, Sobedar or Governor of Hughley and Ballasore, now arrived here $\frac{1}{2}$ the Shipp *Adventure*, Mr. W^m Alley, Commander, and the advice of Mr. Thomas Rolt, Chief for the Hon^{ble} Comp^{ee} in Persia, of the great importance it is to the Hon^{ble} Comp^{ee} affairs in Bengalla as $\frac{1}{2}$ Mr. Walter Clavell's advices thereof to him in these words. That what furtherance or assistance he should afford Mr. Alley in their Governour's business, they should find a profitable influence from it upon the Comp^{ee} affaires there, as appeares by copies of both the said papers here registered.

It it resolved to land the said mores goods and 4 horses here, giving him all possible accommodation for himself and them, and his people also, untill the arrivall of the Hon^{ble} Comp^{rs} shipp from Europe, and then to give them passage thereon for the Bay.

Also to draw upon the said Governour for the summe of Rup^s wth the said Hodge Mahmud is indebted into Mr. Alley for the Shipp *Adventure* for the use of his Master, reserving the vallue thereof here out of the Hon^{ble} Comp^{rs} stock to be sent thither, to be paid unto Mr. Alley or his order as soon as we have advice of its being received in the Bay.

JNO. NICKS, Sec^{rs}.

W. LANGHORN.

J. HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JNO. BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

RIGHT WORSHP^{ts},—The occasion of my giving you this second trouble by the *Adventure*, is to acquaint you that there came upon the shipp from Bengalla a servant of Malick Cassum, the Governour there, who having sent upon her some sugars and other goods, but recommended to Mr. Alley's care and dispose, for the purchase of severall things he wanted from Persia, when y^e acco^t came to be made up, the things bought heere amounted to 3,000 and odd Abasses more than his goods (sould) came to, which caused the shipp stay a whole day after she was ready to saile, to find out some way for clearing this business, wth at last was concluded thus, that Mr. Alley should pay the money taking the fellowes bill for his better security, and that I should write to your honoured self to take cognizance of the business and that Mr. Alley should be reimboursed of his money at his arrivall at Madras, wherein I found myself obliged to move you therein out of respect to the Comp^{rs} affaires in the Bay, Mr. Clavell, &c, writing me that what furtherance or assistance I should afford Mr. Alley in their Governour's business they should find a profitable influence from it, upon the Comp^{rs} affaires there, out of which sole respect I have wth Mr. Alley (as he will more fully advise you) undertaken great trouble and inconvenience therein, therefore am necessitated to request this favour from you, that you will be pleased to give yoursele the trouble to write Mr. Clavell that he positively refuses things of this nature for the future and you will very much oblige

GOMBROOW,

Y^e 16 Aprill 1675.

Your most affect friend and servant,

THOMAS ROLT.

Fort St George, the 16th February 167⁵/₈

Papers delivered in to the Agent and Councell by Major William Puckle the 15 curr^{nt} afternoone and answered unto by them the same afternoon, and this morning.

At Fort.

Mem^d for Major William Puckle as foll. :—

To gett the true prizes of all commodities w^{ch} the Comp^{rs} deal in at the Fort, Metchlepatam and the Bay with their severall sorts and how distinguished, &c.

¹
We have only to refer to y^e Fort Consultations, &c., advices at large imparted to Major Puckle and sent home by the ships.

3. To inquire into the differences twixt Mr. Hall and the Factors, but especially concerning the injuries done the Company.

³
At the Bay.

* * * * *

3. Mr. Manwaring for wronging the Comp^o in overreckoning the packing charges at Metehlep^m and the Bay, and overrating some of the Comp^o goods there, also for bringing to acco^t severall great summes for charges at Ballasor not allowed of by them at the Bay.

³
At Metehla^m and the Bay.

* * * * *

4. Mr. Clavell (now Chief at the Bay) for overrating the Comp^o goods 40 p^c and great private trading, &c, and keeping the generall books himself contrary to the Comp^o order.

5. Mr. Read for overrating some of the Comp^o goods, great private trading, and swearing, &c.

6. Mr. Nurse for the like and drunkenness, and vyolent assaulting of Mr. Hall, &c.

* * * * *

These proposalls aforesaid were delivered in by Major W^m Puckle to the Agent and Councell and by them answered as in Margent.

JNO. NICKS, Sec^y.

W. LANGHORN....

WALTER LAVELL.

J. HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS....

JNO. BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

Some things by way of query presented to the Agent and Councell of Fort St. George at a Consultation held there the 29 February 167 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Resolution on behalf of the Hono^{ble} English East India Comp^o.

S^r W^m LANGHORN, Governour.

WALTER CLAVELL.

JOSEPH HYMNERS.

MAJOR W^m PUCKLE.

Being present. EDWARD HERRYS.

JOHN BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

As to the particulars relating to Mr. Clavell the Agent and Councell doe humbly conceive :—

1. That a Chief has authority by the charter to administer an oath in matters of abuses and injurys to the Hono^{ble} Comp^o as more at large in the said Charter.

It's further desired that you resolve—

Whether Mr. Clavell, Chief in the Bay, hath power to administer oaths.

2. As to the enordering the execution of the said authority he has the same order there that we have here, and as to what may depend on us, the Agent and Councill in their generall letter along with Major Puckle will confirme the Hon^{ble} Comp^{tes} orders relating to his commission as amply and fully as shall be found propper for them to doe. The matters objected to Mr. Walter Clavell, as we have received them we have transmitted them to the Hon^{ble} Comp^{tes} as they stand upon record in the Fort books, who having now appointed Major Puckle to goe down and examine them, the Agent and Councill do neither take upon them to acquit or condemn, but wholly leave it to y^e Major's examination whose commission shall be amply confirmed in the Fort Generall along with Lim, not finding anything therein of misusing their cash or pressing darger requiring a more hasty proceeding.

If he hath, that he be here enordered not to neglect or refuse the same to all such as shall voluntarily offer themselves or be produced on behalf of the Hon^{ble} Comp^{tes} wherein and how Mr. Clavell hath vindicated himself from those matters charged on him of arbitrariness in execution of his office mentioned in Lib. Consultation & Lib. Letters India. These proposalls, Querys presented to A. & C. P^r W^m PUCKLE,

J^{no} NICKS, Sec^{ry}.

At a Consultation in Fort S^t George, the 3rd March 1675.

S^r W^m LANGHORN, *Governour.*

WALTER CLAVELL.

JOSEPH HYMNERS.

MAJOR W^m PUCKLE.

Being present.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JOHN BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

* * * * *

It is likewise assented that three writers, Elihn Yale, Vincent Sayon, and Richard Brown, shall goe down wth Major Puckle for his assistance in the Bay, according to his desire hereunder, and to the end that nothing may be wanting w^{ch} this Agency can contribute to his futherance & assistance in his weighty employment.

And Mr. Clavell representing to the said Gov^r and Councill a great want of Englishmen for the Hon^{ble} Comp^{tes} vessells in the Bay, they have likewise given leave for six men of this garrison hereunder written such as he has found fittest for their service, doe lay down their armes and goe along with him and one Throwster likewise desired for their silk business at Cassumbazar, as also on his request, one drum, tenn firelock musketts, and the bell hitherto used in this fort, the bell for the use and conveniency of their Factory of Ballasore, and more orderly observance of the howers of prayers, meals and of retirement, the drum and armes for both Factorys and vessells as occasion shall require. The said bell being too little for the forts use, and an opportunity now presenting for one a little larger w^{ch} the said Gov^r and Councill do find very necessary to be bought and sett up here in its roome.

The aforesaid clause of our preterm' we acquiesce too with thanks.

W. LANGHORN.

J. HYMERS.

WALTER CLAVELL.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JNO. BRIDGER.

W^m. PUCKLE.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

At a Consultation in Fort St George, y^e 17th July 1677.

S^r W^m LANGHORN, Governor.

STREYNHAM MASTER

JOSEPH HYMERS.

Being present EDWARD HERRYS.

JOHN BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

The Hon^{ble} Comp^e having been pleased to appoint freights to be paid between the Coast and Bay, *vizt.*, thirty shillings p^r ton thither and three pound p^r ton back, this is resolved to be for their serv^{ts} and freemen, strangers as in practice at home, to pay double the rate, and for their passage five pagodas a head.

Also strangers to pay half these rates between this and Metchlep^m. And as to the Hon^{ble} Comp^{ys} servants the freight between this and Metchlep^m being of small benefitt and yet some encouragement to this their own port, is referred to their pleasure.

W. LANGHORN.

STREYNHAM MASTER.

JOSEPH HYMERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JNO. BRIDGER.

TIM. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

Informations received from the Bay.

That persons are not employed pursuant to the Company's orders * because of their honesty, virtue being much dispised and * * continued in those parts, and the contrary as much esteemed * of by the generallity of English.

That all particulars of buying and selling for the Company and generalls to the Fort and Bay is kept private and transcribed by Portugueez Lads kept by the Chiefs of Bengall, a great volume of the roguery those places and others affords to the great president of the Hono^{ble} Company and their servants * might be written; their servants by these ill usage fall into dispa^r of even coming to any preferment, and incline to ill course of debauching themselves, nay it had been through grief the death of many as divers can witness.

Extracts from General Letter from England to Fort St. George, dated 24th December 1675.

In regard wee would have a good correspondence between our ffactorys at Metchlipatam, the Bay, and yourselves, and to keep them in due subordination, wee doe now write to them at the Bay, and would have you give the like order to Metchlepatam: (when that ffactory shall be settled) that our Chiefe and Councell there doe give particular advises of all our affaires to us, and send the cöppyes thereof to you, that you may gave them and us your öpinion how far what they advise may be for our adyantage.

Were enorder you to write effectually to your Chief and Councell at the Bay to provide carefull young men of about 20 years of age out of any of the ships in the Companies' service with the concent of the Comandants, to be trained up as Pylotts, but not to be imployed as writers, or on any other marcantile affairs, that thereby the Companies' shippings may with safety be carryed up the River Ganges, and send no yearly what you doe therein, and an account of their proficiency, and their journalls.

Extracts from the Hono^{ble} Company's General Letter to Fort St. George, dated 15th December 1676.

We note that in your Consultation Books that Mr. Clanell and Mr. Pincen doe laugh and despise at our Agency at your ffort, and doe expect that you have called Mr. Clavell to an account for it whilst he was with you, and that the business of the Bay will be fully settled by Mr. Masters and Mr. Puckle at there going downe, for wee shall not allow any of our servants of w^t quallity so ever to contemn our authority, which those doe that contenne any that Act by it.

Wee find our buisness in the Bay very much impeeded by the difference among our servants there, and our nation itself exposed to contempt through there actions w^{ch} if it be not allready settled by the going downe of Mr. Masters and Mr. Puckle, wee doe order you to take effectuall care therein; and that wee may have an account thereof by the returne of these shippes; and you must make the orders you give to the subordinate ffactorys very playne, for wee observe that some are soe dubious that wee ourselves cannot apprehend your intent, but leave place for approveall or disallowance let them act how they will w^{ch} is noe good correspondance.

The orders you give that when Mr. Clavell is at Hughely, Mr. Hall should goe to Ballasore, and when Mr. Clavell removes the other should remove also we cannot apprehend to be any way for our service, and therefore doe not approve thereof. But if our Chiefe have occasion to remove frome one ffactory to another in order to our service, the next in Councell ought to remayne in your charge till his return.

They complains from thence that they soe long waite for your orders from the ffort, that it brings great inconvenience to our affairs, and therefore wee doe order upon your receipt of any orders from us, you immediately send them playne and necessary directions for there proceedings, and whatsoever you find in any of our letters relative to any subordinate ffactorys let them speedily have coppies thereof, wth necessary directions and instructions thereupon.

And in regard wee doe not at all write to Mitchlep^m you are to extract out of our letters what concernes yours and send it them, and take care that our and yours orders be observed and give us notice of any fayler.

Wee find ourselves at great loss for want of our Books from the subordinate ffactorys, and therefore doe order that both from the Bay and Metchlepa^m and all other your ffactorys they doe send double coppies of all there Books as of there copy book of I^{rs}, Consultations Diarys (w^{ch} they ought to keepe) Journalls and Leadgers and what other Books they keepe for our service, one of each whereof is to remayne wth you to be examined, and your observations thereupon sent us, the other to be by you sent us by the yearly shiping, and wee expect likewise your Books from you, and that this order be executed by this shiping; that soe wee may yearly make our remark and advise your needfull thereupon.

At a Consultation in Fort St. George, the 3rd February 1676-7.

Being Present :

SR. W^m. LANGHORN, GOVR,

STRYNSHAM MASTER.

JOSEPH HYMNERS.

EDWARD HERRYS.

JOHN BRIDGER.

TIMS. WILKES.

JACOB SMITH.

The Chief and ffactors in the Bay after that theirs 16th June 1675, and letters following upon a letter procured to be sent down by their Yaquil to the Nabob at Pattana, and a promise from the Nabob at Decca upon their addresses unto him to have their phérwanna received, Your Hono^{ble} Comp^a affairs did seem to afford a quiet prospective, best agreeing with their orders of 23rd December 1674 and 13th March preceeding, do now write us first by theirs 18th Octob^r last from Mr. Master, &c., Councell referring to his own further enquiry and information, and since by theirs of 19th and 31st December following; the former advising the issuing out an order for the Hono^{ble} Comp^a to pay custome upon all goods bought and sould, the latter the putting the same in execution by fetching away their boats from their wharfs, and seeing others coming downe the upland countrys, to the great hindrance of their intended returns by those ships and wth Mr. Master now returned confirms, adding, that the Nabob pretends to looke backwards and demained the same for twenty years past, and besides all this an old pretence of one Desoto, a Portuguez, for about Rupées 5,300, a debt in Persia about Mr. Young's time, which for the ill consequence of it for past and future of many other like pretences of farr a greater summs has already cost the Hono^{ble} Comp^a about Rupees 9,000 at Decca, both wth pretences of customes in arrears and perticular men's debts, if not overruled, would swallow up a whole yeare's stock, and force them to leave off the trade, insomuch that it is absolutely necessary to procure a new pherwanna to remedy those abuses, either by sending to Agra or some other way, all which the Agent and Councell having taken into their consideration, and finding no other remedy nor meanes to obtain the said pherwanna, in regard that the Presidency of Surratt pay custome allready, and this coast is so remote under another King, and of difficult corresponding, and transactions of Court being to be followed close, and timed, and struck while the iron is hott, and ill admitting of delays, they do resolve that it is for the Hono^{ble} Comp^a service and of urgent necessity that they do speedily give order into Mr. Walter Clavell, Chief, &c., Counsell in the Bay, to take the best course they can to procure a pherwanna from the Moghull, and that they take care your business be well managed with all frugallity, and that it may answer the end by obtaining an effectuall pherwanna and priviledges for the future security, and encouragement of their trade, and if convenient, for the suppressing of the afore-said and all other pretences against them for the past.

The result of Council of Mr. Master, Mr. Clavell, &c., Factors in the Bay, against the setting or entrusting Joseph Hall and John Smith in the Chiefship at Decca, and secondship at Pattana, was then taken in consideration, which, considering the authority vested in Mr. Master and the regularity of his

proceedings, remains for the Hono^{ble} Comp^a to determine, which being so, it is resolved that the Agent and Councill shall give order to the Bay that due care be taken by needfull assistance for the carrying on of the Hono^{ble} Comp^{as} business in those parts untill further order.

(Signed)	W. LANGHORN.
„	STRYNSHAM MASTER.
„	JOSEPH HYNMERS.
„	EDWARD HERRYS.
„	J. WM. BRIDGER.
„	TIME. WILKES.
„	JACOB SMITH.

Memo. that *Bay Grall*. 15th May 1676, all things were quiett in the Bay.

OUR CHIEF AND COUNCIL
AT HUGHLEY.

London, 7th September 1677.

Since ours to you of 19th July and 2nd of August, duplicate whereof comes herewith and was intended you by the Turkey ships, it hath pleased God to arrive with us three of our four ships from your parts, viz., the *Eagle*, *Johanna* and *Falcon*, they leaving the *Surr Monfoudaicts* (?) after their departure from Madras by reason of her heavie sailing. God send her in safetie to us. By these ships we receive yours the 19th January 1676, unto w^{ch} we shall give a full answer by your shipping. But in the meantime would have you take notice of some alterations we have made in the investment w^{ch} we ordered by your letter of 18th December by our last shipping to be made in your parts, and therefore we would have you goe in hands and provide the goods following:—

Coloured Gingham	10,000	Pes
Cossacs	10,000	
Mullmulls	4,000	
Silke Romalls	15,000	
Nillaes	10,000	
Fine Punchums of Decca	1,000	but none coarse.
Taffatic (of which one-half cloth colours)	35,000	according to our last directions and patternes; but the raw Taffaties you send, they must be thicker and of more substance then your last els, they are not vendible.

Glossie black Taffaties if they can be well dyed	10,000
Raw silks head and belly? such as formerly sent	600 bales

Ordinarie raw silke such as came by the *Falcon*—

	ru.	an.	
D? (4) and cost	12½		200 bales.
Salpetre			1,000 tonns.
Floretta yarn			100 bales.
			*

But send us no Tincall.

We have received the Pattrons of Maulda Musters you sent us and would have you provide of them the several sorts and quantities following, but take care they be exact according to pattern you send us:—

		ru.	an.	
Mullmulls No. G, cost	4 8			2,000 Pes
Do. No. F, cost	7 9			2,000
Do. No. E, cost	16 11			2,000
Cossacs No. D, cost	4 12			2,000
Do. No. C, cost	9 5			1,000
Do. No. B, cost	9 0			500
Do. No. A, cost	14 5			500

All the Coscaes to be thinner and cleaner than the samples.

As for the clothes and other stuffs we shall write by your shipping, and returne samples of them back, and then advice what quantities we would have of each sort.

Upon viewing and opening in order to their sale which were brought home by these ships we find as follow :—

The coloured Ginghames are worse, coarse, rowy? and dear.

The millads (nillads?) dear, and not soe good as last year, and the Coscaes A No. B. 6 C. 6 are much too thick and sent home contrary to orders.

And wee find that you have sent us short instead of 12,000 pieces of Romalls, but 4,300 p^{cs}, whereas we understand the full quantity might have been provided. And that instead of 50 bales of Floretta yarn you have only sent us 8 bales.

We are informed that,—bales are procurable, within 30 miles of Pattana, and may be brought with the ? from them then from Surrat.

Wee would therefore have you give directions to Mr. Charnock to buy 10 bales of them that are good for a tryall of 16 yard long, and one yard and a nail broad.

Wee have for the encreasing the vent of your English manufacture from time to time have sent you considerable quantities, and ordered you to put them off at reasonable price. By your advises that you dispose of them either in sale or barter. Wee send less than quantitie wee usually have done, that soe you may be freed of the remains, and wee shall supplie you by time to time only with soe much as may sell for readie money, or putting them off in barter. Wee take notice that your differences amonge your Factors have hindered the due management of your affairs, and much obstructed our returns, but by the directions given last year to our Agent and Councell at your Fort to discountenance or suspend those that should be turbulent hath allready reduced things to a better ordering and settlement; and doe expect to hear that you live in amitie each with other; and industriously unite in the carrying on of our business. Wee shall not now inlarge, but require you to turn what stock wee have into readie money, and particularly the gunns (which you say remaine on hand) either in barter or otherwise, and to improve it in providing the goods wee have enordered, that they may be in readinesse for the lading of our ships, and to take care that all things be managed with frugalitie, and that good orders be kept in your respective factories, and particularly that you follow the directions given for the procuring the new Phirwanud; and soe committing you to the guidance and protection of the Almighty.

We remain,
Yours loving Friends, &c.

Hon'ble Company's General Letter to Hughley, dated 7th September 1677.

OUR CHIEF AND COUNCIL
AT HUGHLEY.

London, 7th September 1677.

Since ours to you of 19th July and 2nd of August, duplicate whereof comes herewith and was intended you by the Turkey ships, it hath pleased God to arrive with us three of our four ships from your parts, viz., the *Eagle*, *Jahanna* and *Falcon*, they leaving the *Surr Monfoudaicts* (?) after their departure from Madras by reason of her heavie sailing, God send her in safetie to us. By these ships we receive yours the 19th January 1676, unto w^{ch} we shall give a full answer by your shipping. But in the meantime would have you take notice of some alterations we have made in the investment w^{ch} we ordered by your letter of 18th December by our last shipping to be made in your parts, and therefore we would have you goe in hands and provide the goods following:—

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Nillaes	10,000	
Fine Punchums? of Decca	1,000	but none coarse.
Taffaties (of which one-half cloth colours)	35,000	according to our last directions and patternes; but the raw Taffaties you send, they must be thicker and of more substance then your last els, they are not vendible.	

Glossie black Taffaties if they can be well dyed	. . . . .	10,000	
Raw silks head and belly? such as formerly sent	. . . . .	600	bales.

Ordinarie raw silke such as came by the *Falcon*—

	ru.	an.	
D? (4) and cost	2	12 ³ / ₄	200 bales.
Salpetre	.	.	1,000 tonns.
Floretta yarn	.	.	100 bales.
	*		*
	*		*

But send us no Tincall.

We have received the Patrons of Maulda Musters you sent us and would have you provide of them the severall sorts and quantities following, but take care they be exact according to pattern you send us:—

		ru.	an.	
Mullmulls No. G, cost	4	8	.	2,000 P
Do. No. F, cost	7	9	.	2,000
Do. No. E, cost	16	11	.	2,000
Cossacs No. D, cost	4	12	.	2,000
Do. No. C, cost	9	5	.	1,000
Do. No. B, cost	9	0	.	500
Do. No. A, cost	14	5	.	500

All the Cos^{ts}acs to be thinner and cleaner than the samples.

As for the clothes and other stuffs we shall write by your shipping, and re-
turne samples of them back, and then advice what quantities we would have of
each sort.

Upon viewing and opening in order to their sale which were brought home
by these ships we find as follow :—

The coloured Ginghames are worse, coarse, rowy ? and dear.

The millads (nillaes ?). dear, and not soe good as last year, and the Cos-
saes A No. B. 6 C. 6 are much too thick and sent home contrary to orders.

And wee find that you have sent us short instead of 12,000 pieces of Ro-
malls, but 4,300 p^{cs}, whereas we understand the full quantity might have been
provided.. And that instcad of 50 bales of Floretta yarn you have only sent us
8 bales.

We are informed that,—bales are procurable, within 30 miles of Pattana,
and may be brought with the ? from them then from Surrat.

Wee would therefore have you give directions to Mr. Charnock to buy 10
bales of them that are good for a tryall of 16 yard long, and one yard and a
nail broad.

Wee have for the encreasing the vent of your English manufacture from
time to time have sent you considerable quantities, and ordered you to put them
off at reasonable price. By your advises that you dispose of them either in sale
or barter. Wee send less than quantitie wee usdally have done, that soe you
may be freed of the remains, and wee shall supplie you by time to time only
with soe much as may sell for readie money, or putting them off in barter. Wee
take notice that your differences amonge your Factors have hindered the due
management of your affairs, and much obstructed our returnes, but by the
directions given last year to our Agent and Councell at your Fort to discounten-
ance or suspend those that should be turbulent hath allready reduced things to a
better ordering and settlement; and doe expect to hear that you live in amitie
each with other; and industriouslie unite in the carrying on of our business.
Wee shall not now inlarge, but require you to turn what stock wee have into
readie money, and particularly the gunns (which you say remaine on hand)
either in barter or otherwise, and to improve it in providing the goods wee have
enordered, that they may be in readinesse for the lading of our ships, and to
take care that all things be managed with frugalitie, and that good orders be
kept in your respective factories, and particularly that you follow the directions
given for the procuring the new Phirwanud; and soe committing you to the
guidance and protection of the Almighty.

We remain,
Yours loving Friends, &c.

Copy of Public Sundry Book, No. 1, 1677 to 1679, relative
to affairs in the Bay.

Cassumbazar, 15th August 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

It having pleased Almighty God to take Mr. Walter Clavell from among us (he dying after four daies' sickness of a violent fever) and the business of these parts according to the Hon^{ble} Companies' settlement devolving on Matt^r. Vincent we thought it our duties to joyne with him in advising to y^e several inland factories thereby as much as in us lies to continue the well proceeding of our master's business in each of them.

And therefore in the first place we doe confirm what orders you have already received from said Mr. Clavell, &c., counsell, we desire and order you not to draw any money on this factory but that what our master's business requires; for the present that you take soe much money at interest to carry it on; and we request you to spare noe pains that the quantity of petre required may this year be procured ready to be sent home as enordered. As soon as treasure arrives we shall be sending up your proportion in specie to be there sold or coyned as you shall find most advantagious.

By our last hence we sent you copie of the Hon^{ble} Companies letter to the Chief and Counsell of Bengall. Your exact compliance as far as you possibly can to which we earnestly recommend to you, desiring and ordering to make it your rule (as we shall here allow) for your proceedings both in y^e latter investments of this year, and those with you to make your investments there, we expect suddenly from you it being ordered by the Chief, &c., ere he dyed.

We desire your opinions per the next of y^e manner how best to procure this King's phirmaund &c., therein requisite, alsoe what you can do with this new Prince, hees now expected as soone as the rains are over in Bengall, how true know not but desire to be informed.

The latter end of this month or beginning of next Matt^r. Vincent intends, God willing to proceed for Hugly, whence shall further advise what needful in the interim remain

You very Reall friends,

MATT^r VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 15th August 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

You will some daies since have heard y^e unexpected news of the death of Mr. Clavell at Ballasore.

What orders in our master's business you have already received from the Chief, &c., Counsell we confirme and recommend to your compliance; the goods the Hon^{ble} Company requires to be provided in Hugly and Ballasore are viz. coloured Glaghams 10,000 ps. Sannaes if to be bartered with broad-cloth bought 50 per cent. cheaper then formerly, 8,000 ps. otherwise none like

Romaulls, 12,000 ps. nillees, 10,000 ps. Pegu sticklack, or in default of that the blackest and the best lack procureable 50 tons. We desire you to send us a calculation as neer as you can what these goods will amount to at a ready money rate, and what sort of goods will goe off (we meane not put off), as alsoe to what amount in the buying of all or any of these goods above mentioned how to proportion our stock we cannot know till the rest of y^e ships arrive. Mr. Vincent hopes to be in Hugly by the latter end of this month or beginning of next at farthest, God willing. We call not else to mind save that we remain,

You very reall friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

P.S.—After y^e writcing of the foregoing came yours of y^e 11th currant. Those Romaulls you have given money out on, as alsoe what formerly enordered as you write by y^e late Chief, &c., to give out money for them, all, we order you to deteynd five chests of treasure that shall, God willing, come upon the arrivall. Pray advise us whither y^e 10,000 ps. of Romaulls ordered by our masters last yeare were understood to be the whole ps. of 30 Romaulls, you need not give to the full amo^t. as agreed on but detain a part in case of abatement as usuall at receiving in

...

You very really friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 15th August 1677.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Yesterday we received generall advices from Ballasore with the starting news of the death of Mr. Walter Clavell, who died y^e 3rd currant of a violent fever. God in his mercy prepare us for our change.

What orders in y^e Hon^{ble} Companies business you have already received from y^e Chief and Councell we confirme desireing you vigorously to proceed in compliance therewith, and that you may know what you have to add to what goods by this yeare already provided as alsoe to goe in hand with for the next yeare we have with these sent copy of our Hon^{ble} master's letter to y^e Chief, &c., of Bengall, and desire and order your compliance therewith, as alsoe that you send them per the next a calculate of what you can provide of those goods for this year's shipping (not questioning but the whole quantity with what you already have may be timely got in) and their amount, that soe we may proportion our stock accordingly, what quick stock we send will be in specie, as it comes out, which shall recommend you to sell or coyne, as you shall find, all things considered, the most advantageous for our masters.

The business of y^e stop at Rajamaul as alsoe y^e demand of custome at y^e mint we recommend to your care. What you have done or can doe in y^e affront given by M. Zoudy, Governour at Hugly, we desire you to write us whither anything to y^e purpose may be effected, and at what rate and in what time y^e answer to those we desire may come in duplicates and directly hither; the other to Hugly (whither Mr. Matt^s. Vincent intends, God willing, to proceed y^e latter end of this month or the beginning of y^e next), that soe when we meet there, we may first consult about this matter and come to what

conclusion we shall on all circumstances find best, in which also we desire your opinion. We call not else to mind at present save that we are

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 17th August 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

We wrote to you yesterday to which we refer you, but we then forgot to give you order to continue y^e sloopes goeing and comeing between Ballasore and Hugly to bring up our master's treasure and goods that so we may on your advice what is arrived dispose part of it to y^e inland factories; and whereas we give you order to detain five chests of treasure out of the *Arrivall*, we find that we were mistaken and that three chests will be enough. They qt. from 800^l. to 1,000^l. each. We shall advise to Ballasore that they take care to dispatch y^e sloops up to you with their lading of goods and treasure. We call not else to mind at present remaine

Your reall friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 18th August 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS, &c.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 15th and 17th currant to which desire you to be referred; this day came yours of y^e 13th to our hands, together with the coppies of the several generall letters by you sent to Ballasore and Dacca. As to y^e business depending in Dacca we have three daies since written thither to know what may be done, and for how much in each of them, that soe at any meeting in Hugly we may consult how to proceed according to the late order received from y^e Worp^l. Agent and Councill at Fort St. George. Y^e answer to which our letter hope will in good time meet us at Hugly. If it comes sooner pray keep it there we having ordered them to write one duplicate this way alsoe.

To Ballasore find you have written for order to sell vermillion (?) and quicksilver, and to buy a parcell of three boyled saltpetre, but in respect of the low price of the one, and y^e great rate of y^e other, we desire you suspend both till Mr. Matt^s. Vincent's arrivall with you in Hugly.

Wee accompanying these send you the invoices of treasure and goods came on y^e *Bengall Merchant*, and desire and order you to draw out Invoices of what of these goods are or shall by you sent hither or to any other of the inland factories according to order received; and that you send them to y^e respective places with letters of advice accordingly. Having not else at present to add remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 18th August 1677.

MR. JOHN MARSHALL &c.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIENDS, &c.,

We have received yours of y^e 4th and 6th currant with y^e most unwelcome news of y^e death of Mr. Clavell. God in his great mercy prepare us all for his change. We hope the last year's generall bookes were perfected and all differences reconciled, or directions for its drawing 'up, the which will be of good consequence for keeping all things in a desired method. We desire you therefore to send all books of acco^{ts}, registers, and all generall papers belonging to y^e Chiefship of Bengall up to Mr. Edward Reade, &c., at Hugly sending them well put up in a dooly by land and as many peons as you shall judge requisite, and that what light you can give into said accompts, that you advise Mr. Reade thereof. That if all things be not perfected he may proceed to finish and shut them up to y^e time enordered. The several papers you mention we have received and find that you have ordered to be sent ashore eight chests of treasure for your factory. Three of those chests, Nos. 65, 66, 72 we desire you to send up to Hugly with the rest of y^e treasure on y^e first sloop, in such a proportion in each as is usuall to load aboard them, and take ashore at Ballasore chest No. A, w^{ch} is part silver, part gold, which latter we order you to dispose of there in or for the investments enordered by our masters. Gold here is worth but 13r. 10a. per mohur, and it is not like to rise, the Prince, who paises his soldiers all in gold, being as all people here report, coming to Bengall as soon as y^e rains are over; therefore by all meanes dispose of this gold there whereby the damage likely to occur to our Hon^{ble} employers will be avoyded. Coppy of Hon^{ble} Companies letter to Bengall we have sent you whereby you will see what to be provided in Ballasore which we exchange unto you, and order you to send a calculate of what you shall want for completing said investment. We have already taken care for y^e paying for y^e 5,000 Romauls (each peece 10 covets 30 Romauls at Hugly the remainder you may provide there). If Stephen Gwilliam be in a condition to travaill pray send him up on the first sloop recommending him to Mr. Reade to forward him hither, as soon as he comes Mr. Edwards may come downe and not sooner, for Mr. Knipe is still detained at the mint as lately advised. We advise your factory bookes are not finished to y^e end of April y^e enordered time of their being ballanced, and doe desire Mr. Marshall to doe it himselfe, and begin and bring on the new ones since Mr. Edwards cannot suddenly be there. You have done very well to advise to y^e flort of Mr. Clavell's decease. Our masters, you will perceive, have enordered 50 tunns of Pegu stick lack which, if you can procure (or what of it you can) pray buy the rest, let be supplied with the best and blackest lack you can gett, and let it be bagged according to their orders.

The treble refined petre will also be acceptable if not ordered, which we recommend unto you being uncertain whither Mr. Charnock may be able this yeare to procure the quantity of fine petre required.

Wee desire Mr. Edmund Bugden's speedy repaire to Hugly and you may send your bookes and papers aforementioned along with him by land. Mr. Vincent intending, God willing, to be in Hugly by the end of this or y^e beginning of next month, we leave it to you as you shall judge most convenient to send these bookes and papers either by the way of Kindoa or all the way by land. If you send them by Kindoa we will write to Mr. Reade that he send a good boate thither to carry Mr. Bugden and them up. We recommend to you in all your contracts to put off goods as well as money provided you buy the goods noe dearer then if for ready money. The Hon^{ble} Companies sloopes as they arrive from Hugly with you, dispatch again thither with all convenient speed and with a suitable lading of treasure and goods. We call not else to mind at present remaine.

Your assured loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

P.S.—Sultaun Auzzem being expected in Bengall, and being one who is much taken with rarities, we desire you to search what you can of any ingenious devices on board these ships to present him withall in case he comes. Triangular glasses secure some and anything else you know to be taken with y^e better sort of these Moores.

Your assured loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 20th August 1677.

MR. JOHN MARSHALL, &c.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND, &c.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 18th currant, to which we refer you. Yesterday came to our hands your of y^e 9th present chiefly importing y^e coynage of treasure at Cateck, and y^e Boremull has promised that he will forward it soe that we shall not meet with such delayes as to our naster's great damage this yeare hath hapned in y^e mint at Rajamaul.

We are very sensible of Boremulls' good inclinations to our nation as having some of us knowne him many yeare's, but in considering the great distance of Cateck, the wildness of y^e country in y^e way thither, as alsoe unsettledness in y^e service now committed to him, y^e Prince being at Bolchund and all people hereabouts say ordered to Bengall and expected after the raines at Rajamaul, on all which we know not well how to order the mintage of anything there though doe not absolutely forbid it, but rather order you to be very cautious how to proceed in it, and we had rather you sold it to some able shroffe though you let him coyne Cateck in our name.

Wee hope you will at arrivall of this have ordered chest No. A to be taken ashore; and by selling of y^e gold to some shroffe, and letting it be sent and coyned in our name at Cateck, you will be able to prevent great part of the damage otherwise likely to come by its being sent to Bengall, where that species is soe exceedingly fallen in price. For all other things we refer you as above mentioned to our last generall letter hence, and rest

Your very loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cassumbazar, 25th August 1677

MR. SAMUEL HERVY, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 15th currant since which by way of Hugly we have received your of y^e 2nd and 8th currant, the former brought your diary for the last month. M. Zandy still keeps the Englishmen as alsoe our goods, seldome, as Mr. Reade writes, appearing. The invoice of cloth and lace shall be sent you as soon as y^e Genll bookes and papers arrive at Hugly whether they are ordered in company with Mr. Bugden from Ballasore. In y^e meantime you may leave them in blanck, and make up your bookes to y^e end of Aprill and send them to Hugly.

The Taucksaul affairs we hope you will bring at length to a good issue. In the meantime what treasure we can sell shall be so disposed off, which we alsoe recommend to you for what you shall receive.

Wee are sorly y^e affaire of Mellick Zendy goes on so ruggedly. You must doe what you can to prevent Mosely and Norton's coming to Decca, and we hope Roynundelol (to whome if you see fit you may contrive a letter from Mr. Vincent with what contents you think best) may be brought to be of another mind, then by yours of the 8th currant he seemed to be. Mr. Reade writes, that there is doe hopes of M. Zendies delivering y^e two men unless we comply with him or more forceable orders come from the Nabob for it. What you shall on all circumstances find we had best doe, pray advise to Hugly from time to time; if on Mellick Zendi's deniall (as he has done, will questionless persist in it) 8 to deliver our men, you find it may avale to make an aurzdass to y^e Nabob, you may draw up one the best you can in Mr. Vincent's name, and deliver it to y^e Ray or Nabob w^{ch} you judge most convenient.

When you know all ye contents of Mosley's papers pray advise with all necessary remarks thereon as alsoe on all other business recommending to you as occasion offers, when you shall not want answers and orders as far as in our power to give you how to proceed.

Pray send your letters to Hugly and advise what sorts and quantities of cloth of y^e enordered investment which you will percieve by y^e Hon^{ble} Companies letter to Bengall lately sent you, you have given out money on and what remains to be done and what summe it may amount unto, Calling not else to mind remaine

Your loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 25th. August 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 18th to which refer you. We have since received yours of the 18th and 20th currant and hope you have dispatched y^e treasure, &c., as enordered by Mr. Clavell and Councell. The enclosed from Decca came also safe and we have written y^{urs} this day.

The bookes and generall papers are ordered in Mr. Bugden's charge from Ballasore to Hugly: When they arrive, which hope will be suddenly, pray be drawing out what invoices you shall know are wanting in all factories that we may send them away. When you write next to Ballasore pray write for two beames and scales, y^e one for Pattana the other for Dacca factory.

Pray fail not to doe what you can to get those Englishmen into your possession, but there must be noe agreement made with M. Zendy till we meet, and have such necessary advices from Decca as hence we have written for.

Your calculate and acco^t. of goods now arrived on y^e *Ganges* and the *Arrivall* we have received, and are glad at last those vessels are got safe and so nigh Hugly; you have done very well in sending boates and John Threder downe to fetch up the treasure, &c. since the sloopes can come up noe further; the Romauls the Hon^{ble} Companies orders are questionless y^e same sort now as last yeare. We call not else to mind, remaine,

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 25th August 1677.

MR. GEORGE KNIPE.

LOVEING FRIEND,

Wee have received yours of y^e 21st current, and hope according to your advices the Droga of y^e Mint is arrived ere this. We are glad your worke within doores is soe nigh a conclusion; pray make an end as soon as possible that you may come and take the warehouse here, that Mr. Edwards may repaire to his charge at Ballasore, where Mr. Gwilliam is dead.

Nabob Bamunijar's sonn will not, as I heare, trouble Rajamaul ih hast, if he does you may goe and see him and carry him goldmohurs and rups. as is customary to y^e sons of his quallity. Wee call not else to mind, save that we are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 25th August 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was y^e 15th instant which we confirme. Since is come to hand yours of the 13th instant, whereby we perceive you are like to undergoe some trouble in getting the petre boates cleared; the Duan soe absolutely denying a dustick till hath received custome; we are at a loss to give any particular directions herein, but doe leave it wholly to you to act according to y^e best of your judgement, and as the nature of y^e affaire shall require, earnestly recommending and enordering you to use your utmost endeavours and dilligence to gett them cleared, it being a worke absolutely necessary and to be effected, though with some cost, but custome is by all meanes possible to be avoyded.

The neshawn* of Sultan Shujah's we note you have received and alsoe onely Bengall and Orixia may be named, yet it was always esteemed to comprehend his whole Government (of which the Subaship of Birerra was a part), and did soe pass in those daies; if you think any inconveniences may arrive thereby you may forbear Shewing it, but having obtained the clearing those boates, you will doe well as occasion offers to proceed in procuring this Prince's neshawne for our trade under his government, which may be of great use to us.†

Wee greatly differ from you in your opinion about custome, for though the Hon^{ble} Company be at a great charge in presents, &c., in carrying on their trade in those parts yet, if rightly examined, it will be found far shorter of what y^e custome inwards and outwards, if paid, amount to; and besides then we should pay custome, yet we should not be able to cleare ourselves from y^e same charges in presents, &c. that hitherto we have been, & instance many of our neighbours, whose trouble and presents are as great at all times as ours, which makes the priviledge we hitherto have had (and hope may yet be continued to us) to be of the high esteeme with us.

You will shortly be supplied with a beame and other necessaries for your factory. Your bookes must be made up to y^e 30th of Aprill, observing those directions given by Mr. Master, &c., Councell; coppie of y^e Honourable Companies letter to Bengall hath been sent you, the other when we are at more leisure to have them transcribed you shall receive.

The Hon^{ble} Company never received your bookes & letters beginning September 1673 and September 1674: therefore let them be transcribed and sent us that they may be transcribed home this yeare. Your this yeare's bookes let them be sent as soon as they can that soe our complaint may not stay for them;

* The Royal sign in a grant. Here evidently used for the grant itself.

† 'Tis here wholly reported that he will after y^e rains come down into Bengall of which if any certainty let us be advised.

We shall expect your diary in tribble coppies to y^e end of November, as alsoe your acco^t of cash at that time, &c., Europe goods by you then. You will see by the Hon^{ble} Companies generall that they doe enorder a greater quantity of petre then formerly, therefore doe recommend and enorder you to provide what more you can to be at Hugly at y^e end of December or sooner.

Wee again earnestly recommend the clearing of y^e petre boates to your care and prudence. Wee remaine

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 25th August 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Wee omitted, through forgetfullness, to order in our last that you would take out the silver of y^e chest No. A, and to send the gold to Decca in part of their this yeare's stock, it selling better there then in any other place in Bengall. We had ordered to be taken ashore and sold at Ballasore, but our advices came too late and it cannot now be sent back. We recommend it to your quick dispatch to Decca and remaine,

Your very ready friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 27th August 1677.

MR. SAMUEL HERVY, &c.,

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 25th currant, since which, contrary to our expectations, is arrived Chest No. A qt. gold, which we have in an *oolauck*, accompanied with one house and two hired peons sent you; it containes and amo^t as of invoice inclosed to Rups. 28,549-7 as., which recommend to your disposeall and investment according to our master's orders. What more will be coming to your factory shall, on going to Hugly and arrivall of the other ships, be sent you. This gold we send to you well knowing it beares the best price in Decca of any place in Bengall, and calling not else to mind we rest,

Your very ready friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 29th August 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 25th currant on two boates in charge of Thomas Bromly and four peons; we have sent you four chests of bullion amo^t as of invoice inclosed to Rups. 30,111-5-6, alsoe there comes four bales of broad-

cloth, the which we have not received any invoice of from Alqw (?) to this day, but as soon as Mr. Vincent goes down one shall be sent you; in y^e meantime you may endeavour to dispose of it, as alsoe to coyne or sell y^e above mentioned treasure, which you shall find most to our master's advantage and to pay off what at interest, and goe in hand to supply what wanting of y^e enordered quantity of saltpetre, all which things we recommend to your observance according to our Hon^{ble} employer's orders, and what others given thereupon. We call not else to mind at present, save that we are

Your very ready friends, . .

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

The boates we have hired by the month, and therefore desire you to dispose them as soon as possible, and if you have occasions you may keep Thomas Bromley there, and send George Peacock on these boates; the boates are in pay till they arrive hither againe. There comes on those boates one chest of our master's wine No. 3: y^e bottles and chest are to be disposed off and brought to an acco^t.

Thomas Bromley hath received 20 rups. for way charges, which he is to give you an acco^t. off; 'tis included in the 111 rups. .

Your very ready friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 29th August 1677.

MR. GEORGE KNIPE.

Wee hope ere this a new Droga of y^e mint is arrived, and that our master's business there will at last suddenly draw to a conclusion, which we should be glad to heare.

On these boates in charge of Thomas Bromely we have sent severalls to Pattana of worth and import, was to expedit their dispatch from Rajamaull. May goe for presents to the Shazadda at Pattana, by which means we conceive you may get a dustick for their passage thence. Pray endeavour that they may not ly long embarqued there. We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Cossumbazar, 29th August 1677.

MR. THOMAS BROMLEY.

In your charge and four peons we have sent two boates wth severalls of worth and import to Pattana, as advised Mr. Job Charnock, &c., there in a generall letter thither now delivered you. We order you to keep the two boates together, and to be very careful in y^e voyage up, and on noe acc^t. to go in the night, nor when you see tempestuous weather, neither letting the boatmen loyter

in y^e way, nor hurrying them on too fast, but making that convenient hast which may be best and safest for y^e well accomplishing this intended voyage. We are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD LITTLETON.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

Hugly, 12th September 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Wee have rec^d. yours of y^e 1st curreant with y^e much to be lamented news of y^e death of Mr. John Marshall, &c. The Lord in his great mercy put a stop to this raging distemper and restore your healths.

In ours of y^e 18th and 20th last month directed to Mr. John Marshall, &c., wee gave full orders for management of our Master's affaires in Ballasore, to which we still refer you onely ordering Mr. Edmd. Bugden to continue at Ballasore and to take upon him y^e management of our Hon^{ble} Master's affairs in that place till further orders, and we recommend to him, &c., to send away hither all generall papers belonging to y^e cheifship of Bengall if not already done as then enordered, alsoe that you give us what light you can into the generall acco^t that if it be not already done they may the sooner be brought into a method here. Your factory bookes pray make up to the end of Aprill, send up as soon as possible, forget not to keep a diary, and to act by consultation according to our Master's order and the rules left by y^e Worpⁿ. Streynsham Master. Romaulls we have provided here pieces 5,500, the rest pray endeavour to procure there at as easy rates as you can, and pray by y^e first send us a calculate of what of those goods required by our Masters usually bought about Ballasore, you shall be able to procure for those ships with their amount. Sannoes not to be medled with unless for goods and 50 per cent. cheaper, then formerly. Pray observe well what now and in the aforesaid letters of the 18th and 20th last month we have written you, whose coppies have inclosed sent you least they should be mislaid amongst Mr. Marshall's papers.

You will find in our Master's letter to Bengall an order to enquire into the truth of y^e dammage placed to their accompt by Mr. Clavell on y^e fire that burned downe their factory in Ballasore in y^e yeare 1674, they having been pleased to express their satisfaction in y^e greatness of their loss and the manner of its being brought to acco^t, wherefore we order you to prepare that business for examination by getting what writings and other lights thereunto you can, that so the reall truth may be discovered, and advises given our Masters accordingly there.

Wee enorder and recommend unto you earnestly and that you having time (which we shall want conveying downe) you doe not them superficially but throughly see it may be to satisfaction. In all other things refer you to our Master's letter aforesaid, and what advices received from y^e Worpⁿ. Agent and Councill whose coppies you have there, alsoe to our letters above mentioned We remaine

Your very reall friends,

MATTHIAS VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

P.S.—Wee desire and order you to receive the fraught of all such that have laden any goods from y^e coast to Ballasore upon the Europe ships, and to keep exact acco^t thereof for our Masters.

Your very reall friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 13th, September 1677.

Mr. GEORGE HERROW,

Wee are glad to understand you are safely arrived into Hugly river and have ordered boates to take out y^e treasure and for ladeing that and what other goods you have on board. You are to follow Mr. Edward Reade's orders, and if you have not a good oportunity of winds and tydes to come up then bring your vessell to an anchor in a good birth out of the streame's way till unladen. Wee remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 18th September 1677.

Mr. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was the 12th currant, when we referred you to directions for proceeding in our Master's affaires sent you y^e 18th and 20th past month, and least those letters should not readily be found because of Mr. Marshall's disease, we sent you coppies of them to which refer you not doubting of your best endeavours to act accordingly. You have alsoe a copy of our Master's letter to us for your being the fuller acquainted with their orders, which as to y^e goods to be bought with you we particularize as followeth, earnestly recommending it to your care to provide them timely and well made and sorted hoping you have sometime since entered upon the same, *viz.* —

Coloured Ginghams	.	.	.	.	.	.	10,000	pieces.
Romauls, Silk	.	.	.	.	.	.	6,500	do.
Nillees	.	.	.	.	.	.	10,000	do.
Hummums	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,000	do.
Pegit Stick Lac or other goods Black Lack if the Pegu is								
not to be had .								tons 100.

You are to buy noe Sannoos unless you can barter for broadcloth at 50 per cent. cheaper then formerly.

Wee have received your severall letters of y^e 4th, 5th, and 6th currant, the former advising us of the new *London's* arrival which we were glad to understand. You mention a copy of an attestacon of what cash was found in Mr. John Marshall's chest, but none came we suppose through last it was forgott to be inclosed, pray send it by next.

The sloop *Arrivall* hath brought us ten chests of treasure from the *Czar*, and we wish you had ordered some quantityes of all other goods on board her as we hope you have upon the *Ganges* by whome if you have not sent the ten chests of treasure which came upon y^e new *London*, we now order you to send it upon y^e *Arrivall*, which in few daies (as soone as we can fit her with some necessaries) shall be returning unto you, and after you have sent what you can of our Master goods hither by her, we order you to take all that remains out of each ship on shoare at Ballasore and house it well in y^e factory, because we shall not be able to make another turne with the sloopes till about the time we expect the moonsoone to change w^{ch} will not be safe. Wee hope you have sent away the Acco^s and Registers, &c. without which we have far to looke in many matters that relates to our Master's business, and besides the yeare will be so far spent, that we shall not be able to make up the generall bookes: wherefore we desire, if it be not done already, that you hasten them to us that we may alsoe see what quick stock was resting at Mr. Clavell's decease, and if there be

not sufficient with the three chests of treasure allready ordered, we may take timely care to supply you Wee remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

"Hugly, 19th September 1677.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.,

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Wee have received yours of y^e 24th and 29th ultimo, and alsoe of the 7th current to which having already written you fully shall answer briefly Firstly. What of those serts of cloth ordered by our Masters in their generall, arrived by these ships, you can procure for ready money, pray neglect not to buy as reasonable as you can for money, you are and shall be furnished as your occations shall require. Y^e Taucksaul if can sell our treasuro shall have little occation to make use off as we hope. However if for a moderate expence can gett cleare of its custome pray doe; the which we recommend to your prudentiall manage. We have sent for the bookes of Acco^u, registers, &c., from Ballasore. As soon as they arrive and we can put them into a due method, shall send you the invoice you mention; in the interim leave in a blank and ballance your acco^u to y^e end of Aprill last and them 28th f^o y^e first.

Wee are sorry you shall be able to supply us with noe more then 4,000 pieces of cloth of all sorts, our masters requiring pieces 13,000 of Cassaes and Mullmulls. Pray advise us what quantities of these you hope to send will be Cassaes and what Mullmulls; for your succeeding year's stock we shall allot you your proportion of money and goods in due time.

The phirwanna for cleareing our petre boates at Rajamaul will be very expedient, though hitherto the Prince's Duan at Pattana will not suffer any dusticks to send them thence till pay custome being exasperated by y^e Dutch complaineing (as they did to the Nabob against Roynundolal) to y^e Prince y^e he stopped their boates.

Our goods on acc^t custome we have received and hope y^e Englishmen will follow, Mellick Zandy being afraid to send them to Decca, they having openly declared by meanes used here that they will complain against him there, that he tooke them out of y^e English factory by force, and by force detained them. The Cassaes, &c., from your parts we shall chest here below since you shall not be soe well able to doe it there.

The wax figures W. F. we have received.

Wee are glad that the chest of gold is safe arrived. What difference in the invoice you must advise to Cossumbazar, it being charged hence thither and thence to Decca. We looke on Ludhooram's talke and costomes, and he being poore when to impossibility, but wee conceive shall suddenly have a new crowry or buxbundur.

Wee understand that one Richard Wilson and James Warden are at Decca with you, and that they have this yeare brought a ship to Chitagaune, where they have, contrary to our Master's priviledges, paid custome, &c, for which reason, as alsoe theire having come complaints from the coast that this same Wilson hath run away with y^e estate of some of y^e Hon^{ble} Companies servants on y^e coast who are indebted to y^e Company and chiefly (as they have said before good witnesses) occasioned by the said Wilson's running away with their money. We are further informed that the said Wilson and Warden hath openly declared that as soon as they can get to sea they will seize on any Moores vessell or junk they shall first meet withall to make themselves amends for what wrongs they pretend they have received from y^e Moores at Chitagaune the which if they should doe, and it should be complained off at Decca, you very well know what bad consequence it may prove to our Master's affairs too much already embroyled in these parts, on all which premises we order you if

you find it feasible to send the said Wilson or Warden (or which of them you can) well secured downe unto us that we may returne him to y^e Worpⁿ. Agent and Councell at Madrass to answer for all his misdemeanours, and to make what satisfaction he can to his creditors. If y^e vessell could be sent into y^e Roade too it would be very well. We call not else to mind soc rest.

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Ingly, 24th September 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &CA.

RESPECTED FRIENDS, &CA.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 29th last month, when sent in charge by Thomas Bromley four cheste of bullion for account our Honble Master's, amount as invoice then sent unto Rups. 30,111.5½, which we hope long since is safe arrived with you and disposed of.

Wee have received yours of y^e 20th August to Mr. Reade, &c.; alsoe yours of the 1st and 10th curreant. The latter yesterday to all materiall in which shall answer. The boates of lead, &c., which were stopped at Baugulpore we understand are cleared, that scarlet and broadcloth sent you up is as well conditioned it seemes as was then here in y^e warehouse, as soon as the generall papers arrive from Ballasore which hath been much retarded and though ordered severall times (to be sent thence) by the death of Mr. Marshall and Henry Carpenter, and the sickness of Mr. Bugden we shall send you, as well as to other factories, what invoices they as well as you have not yett received.

As we advised you from Cossumbazar, we are of opinion that if our Masters are in cash sufficient in any of their factories, that it is more advisable, and for their advantage that money be remitted where wanted then that it should be taken up at interest. But if Pattana and the other factories both want money we judge it reasonable y^t money if to be had should rather be taken up at interest in y^e place where it must be invested then in any other factory to be sent thither, the charge being the same to our Masters whether they pay interest in Pattana or any other place when y^e interest is at the same rate as in the present case it is. You have found that the Honble Company's Generall to Bengall went as we advised you in ours of y^e 15th August, which we recommend againe as then unto your observance. For your stock we shall take care that you be timely supplied with it to y^e amount you mention.

Wee are of opinion with you that it will then be y^e fittest time to stir about getting the King's phirmaund, when heare, what Shausteh Caun's Auzdars has or can doe for us. In the meantime it will ly on you to be putting things in a posture in referrence to sending and going aloft about it, though y^e manner of it as you may perceive is referred to your experience and prudence. We are sorry to heare of soc bad a character of the Prince. (We hope if he stayes that when his Government comes to be settled that he will prove a better Governour then now he gives hopes off. Sha Shujah was bad enough when he came first to Bengall but grew better as his coffers filled.) Paper as soone as comes up shall send your proportion, off having writ for it up.

Wee are very much troubled to find by yours of the 10th September that the Pattana Duan hath given you a positive answer as well as to y^e Dutch that without paying of custome our Master's petre boates should not stir from Pattana. We cannot find that we have any power without order from y^e Worpⁿ Agent, &c., to give you any possitive order in it, conceiving as you writely observe for yourselfe that if we should say pay not custome that we should be extremly blamed in case y^e petre cannot come downe without it which will be an exceeding loss to our Masters. All that we can say, since you have not written your owne opinion in this case, is y^t we judge it may not be safe to pay custome without possitive orders from our superiors soe to doe, but we conceive that

if the full amount of the custome or more were privately offered to the Duan there that he would not refuse it, but be very glad to cleare our boates to get soe much money cleared to himselfe, or in case it should be soe that he will not take a bribe (which is rare) yet this Prince himself we think would not much stand upon it whither he received from us y^e amount of the custome in another name. We recommend this affaire wholly unto you being very ready to consent to what you shall find most reasonable to doe therein. We would have written to Madras about this affaire but ere an answer could arrive the petre must come too late thence for y^e business of this moonsoone soe that you see how much it imports you to worke through it, and we hope a round bribe may doe what we desire with y^e Duan at last.

The bookes 167 $\frac{3}{4}$ hope suddenly to arrive from you, as alsoe your this yeare's bookes of acco^{ts}, &c. as formerly desired. Mr. Master's pattern shall send as soon as have leisure from business, and sickness at Ballasore where it hath pleased God to take away Mr. Marshall, Mr. Carpenter, and Abraham Rutton as aforesaid, and the rest according to y^e last advices thence sick, which we feare will alsoe prove a great hindrance to our Master's business in that factory.

We shall not dispute whither treasure fetch better at Cossumbazar or Pattana, but can say this what y^e merchants buy at y^e former place they generally send away to the latter which we imagine they would not doe to their loss. Calling not else to mind at present, we remain

Your very ready friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

P.S.—Edward Reade advising he hath in Mr. Charnock's hands rupees 2500, we permitt you to bring it into our Master's cash, and we shall pay the same here and you are to credit this factory for the same.

Your very ready friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 24th. September 1677.

MR. GEORGE HERRON.

We having for a few daies since deferred the dispatch of the sloop *Arrivall* to Ballasore Roade by reason of your sickness, and you being now againe, God willing, able to proceed on that voyage, we order you upon receipt hereof to goe aboard the said sloop and use your best endeavours for y^e speediest getting into Ballasore Roade as near the English ships as conveniently you can, and when pleases God you arrive thither you are to send our letters to Mr. Edmd. Bugden, whose orders you are to follow for your lading and returne hither the time of y^e yeare drawing on in which we may expect some more then ordinary blowing weather. You are therefore to take speciall heed to the season, of the moone, or either goe out or stay within y^e river as you find good cause.

The sloop *Arrivall* wanting a good mast we order you to try if either of the commanders of y^e English ships can spare one of their top masts that may be fitting for that use, and to bring it up with you and we shall take care to content the owner for y^e same. We wish you a good voyage and remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 25th September 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN.

The master of the sloop *Arrivall* being taken with an ague and feavour we could not give soe quick a dispatch to that sloop as we intended but now she is proceeding towards you, and we desire and order you to lode on board her the treasure remaining on board the *London* with a convenient lading of some of all sorts of our Hon^{ble} Master's goods, but we would have you consult with George Herron y^e Master about y^e condition of the vessel, and have respect unto the weather and season of y^e yeare and accordingly lade and give her a dispatch as quick as possible.

Wee wonder we have noe news of y^e *Ganges* she being mett by the *Arrivall* when she last came up outward bound and since that you mention nothing of her. We wish she may be in safety. Wee have received yours of y^e 15th currant, and shall answer it by land, in y^e interim wishing you, &c., much health, remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 25th September 1677

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &CA.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Wee have some daies since received yours of y^e 14th currant. We are sorry the quicksilver case No. 3 held out soe short but on examinacon here are given to understand it arrived soe from Ballasore, our friends there through the great sickness and mortality there not causing things to be so well examined, sealed downe, &c., as they were wont, ere sent from on board y^e ships for they never came ashore there. The copy of the Hon^{ble} Companies letter to Bengal, which we sent to Pattana, did arrive there at last; however you did very well to supply them with another copy least that should have been lost.

We have sent forwards towards you on two great boats 150 maunds of tin and 150 maunds of copper plates for account our Hon^{ble} employers amount as per invoice therewith to which refer. Recommending it to you for the speediest sale we desire you to advise what cash and goldmohurs more you expect from y^e mint at Rajamaul.

Your silk as soon as packed we desire you to send downe with all convenient expedition, which done, we hope you may be able to acquit Mr. Edwards, which we order you to do by letting him deliver over his charge to Mr. George Knipe if come from y^e mint, or any one else you judge most fitting in y^e ffactory till Mr. Knipe comes, who is made your warehouse keeper, which done pray send him downe, the mortallity at Ballasore having made him assistant there almost of necessity. The 'Rajamaul acco^t' when Mr. Knipe returns thence, we having this yeare soe over much business in their factories, pray make up and enter into your factory booke as usuall. Henceforward we shall charge your factory with noe more then shall concerne it, one investment, y^e rest to Rajamaul or wheresoever we shall send it. Calling not else to mind at present with cordial wishes for your health, wee remaine.

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 28th September 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Yours of the 12th and 18th currant. We have written fully unto you as to all matters relateing to y^e manage^{mt} of our Master's affaires in Ballasore to which refer you; y^e 28th despatched y^e sloop *Arrivall* to you with order how to lade and returne her to us. To this day we have not one word of y^e arrival of y^e sloop *Ganges* in Ballasore Roade, not having in either of yours of the 12th or 15th currant now received taken any notice of her. We wish sho be safe.

We have received several papers and bookes from you that came upon y^e dooley and find that both the Hugly and Ballasore bookes of acco^{ts}. are brought up noe further then the prime of January last, at which we admire, and the last bookes you have sent us up is not soe methodicall as desired, wherefore have herewith returned it to you ordering you to draw it out faire and ballance it to the end of every month, and express to whome you delivered the ballance of y^e cash at Hugly. The Journall and Ledger which you call Letter A we desire it may be letter T, as y^e generall bookes are those we order you to goe in hand perfect to y^e end of Aprill last, and send us if you can that we may take them into our bookes which we shall endeavour to perfect here.

Efor the 7,047 and 1,090 rups. you mention paid by Mr. Bugden to Mr. Marshall since January last, we suppose he did it not without order, and if it was for our Master's acco^t. we suppose he kept the cash booke and we question not but if Mr. Marshall received it for same acco^t. but that he gave their credit in his cash-booke likewise; when we shall have time to examine and reconcile all acco^{ts} we doubt not but to adjust this and all other differences of this nature.

We have herewith returned the peons, and desire that you keep soe many peons as y^e business of that factory requires, and not soe many as were usuall and possibly requisite. When Mr. Clavell was there we allow you eight cahars for y^e pallankeen and noe more; if you have occasion for more you may hire them for soe long as is necessary. We recommend to you to be frugall in y^e charges what paper, paper bookes, quills, and pencills are come on y^e ships detaining what is reall necessary for Ballasore. We admire you have not sent us if they are on board ship and not yett come on the *Ganges*, then pray order all on board the *Arrivall*, and if they be on shoare, and you think you can meet a snatch to send them off, lett them come upon the said vessel, but if you apprehend they will be damaged then keep them and send them up by y^e first vessell that shall come from thence to Hugly after the storme we absolutely wanting paper for our business here. We find severall invoices wanting allmost all originall papers, both of them and letters received none of y^e letter registered, you having sent but one copy booke of letters. Pray send up all Mr. Clavell's and Mr. Marshall's papers that we may looke amongst them for Nabob Shausteh Caun's perwana, (coppie of it attested by the Cazzee comes enclosed.)

What stick lack you have agreed for we approve off but cannot of the lauck there being noe order to buy any without sticks. We desire if good and you can make up the stick lack 100 tons. Petre is deare. We desire you to remember y^e merchants that we buy now all at ready money price and not in truck at raised rates as formerly, though you must have goods in truck but the rate may be made what the goods are really worth ready money, according to which it must and will follow that the rates of goods must not be soe high as formerly, but as we sell our goods for noe more than their value, or what really worth, that the merchants alsoe let us have their goods at a ready money rate.

We hope, though you have omitted to advise us however, have given out money on y^e quantities of Gingham, Nillees, Romauls, &c., according to the Hon^{ble} Companies orders received. Pray take care that the musters be good.

cheap and according to our Master's directions. We call not else to mind at present remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE,

Hugly, 3rd October 1677.

THOMAS BROWNE.

We have received your note and bill of lading, by which we understand what you have brought from Ballasore. We have now sent three boates with five boyes and ropes, and order you immediately to lade on board them the ten chests of treasure on board, four chests on board the biggest boate and three chests on each of the other boates. The five boyes you have brought from Ballasore and these five we have now sent you pray make fast to each chest on which a convenient length of rope. We order you to stay on board and to make what hast you can with the vessell up. We intending not to send her downe any more till after the storme is broke up. We remain

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugli, 6th October 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &CA.

LOVING FRIENDS, &ca.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 28th ult., since which is come to hand yours of 22nd and 28th ultimo. Mr. Richard Edwards have written for to Cossambazar, as soon as he arrives hither, he shall without delay be sent to Ballasore.

The dooley of papers have received, but we cannot but think you must find more then those being severall still behindhand which we shall want.

Wee have received y^e acco^s of what goods you propound as to be provided at Ballasore, but we cannot agree to have any Cossas or Mullmulls provided there, being very well acquainted that y^e sorts are not those our Masters require and therefore order you not to buy one piece. The Nillees, Gingham, Romauls and Hummums, we approve your giving out your money upon; and if the lateness of the yeare be such as that the merchants cannot take above one-third part in goods, though as before advised you must contract as ready money, you may agree accordingly with them, but we would have you observe to detain soe much of their daudunnee in your hands as may save you the trouble of their bringing in goods short of their musters, of running after them for the remaines, and pray take good musters of goods you give money out for.

We would know what Europe goods of our Masters were lost in the fire at Ballasore in 1674, as well as what y^e merchants had bought in acco^t their contract, the Hon^{ble} Companies loss consisting of both, we desire all may be onely got ready for examinacon according to our Master's orders against we come done.

Wee have received one box of paper, quills, &c., nor till now heard that you had sent any on the *Arrivall*.

Thomas Browne is come into the river with y^e *Ganges*. Y^e treasure you sent we have taken on shore, and have sent a boate to tow her up that may goe in hand to repaire her against y^e moonsoons breake up, and goods come from inland factories arrive hither.

We cannot helpe it if your merchants clamour that we take not goods contrary to their orders; and that if they will not sell their sannoes 50 feet inches cheaper then usuall, and that in barter for Europe Goods that we cannot buy one piece of sannocs of them this yeare. We know not what you means by the

cash found in Mr. John Marshall's chamber. If you meane the Hon^{ble} Companies cash, pray advise whether it agrees with the due ballance of cash to y^e time or not that we may take care in case it doth not secure soe much out of Mr. Marshall's estate. We remember not else at present. Remaine.

Your loveing friends,
MATT^s. VINCENT.
EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 10th October 1677.

MR. SAMUEL HERVY, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 19th last month to which refer you. After trying several waies with our cross grained crowry Mellick Zedy, he seems resolved to send Richard Mosely and John Norton to y^e Nabob except we will give him a note wherein must acknowledge the justice of his taking them by force out of y^e factory here, &c., which we cannot doe if we either respect the Hon^{ble} Companies honour or our own safety, presedents of this nature being soe apt to be followed if over timely put up. The two Englishmen are put up upon a boate and may possibly be sent up as alsoe Mosely's wife. What trouble may follow we know not, but we suppose not much for our men have bin soe unhumanly used that they say they both resolved to complaine of Mr. Zedy, and that they never complained against the English which if they continue in it will be well, and you must endeavour by frequent messāges to them and faire promises to cherish them in it, we suppose as afore-said they will alsoe send up Mosely's wife. We recommend all unto your skillfull management not being able to present it here except on such unsafe terms as above said. As for expence necessary in this affaire we enjoyne you to be as frugall as possible, and not thereby state the business and loose soe necessary a priviledge of our Masters in this country. As the having power of all English in these parts, we earnestly desire you to bestir yourselves to some purpose in this concerne till you bring it to an issue which we pray God may be prosperous. If Mosely should produce papers of doubt they are of P^ticular men to Mr. Broughton and not of the Hon^{ble} Companies, we have not else to add save that we are dispeeded y^e 16 at night.

Your very loving friends,
MATT^s. VINCENT.
EDW^d. READE.

Hugly, 16th October 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Wee have received yours of y^e 5th and 6th currant with bales 360 of raw silke and 22 ditto of Maulda. The markes we have not yet compared but question they will come out according to your said advises. We admire the boate of tinn and copper was not arrived with you. We hope your next will advise of Mr. Knipe's having finished all at the mint, and that Mr. Edwards is come hitherwards. We are glad you have received a perwanna from Decca for clearing our petre boates at Rajamaul. We should be very glad to heare they were well so far on their way hither not having heard from Mr. Charnock upward of a month date to this day, which is the only hopes we have of their being likely to be cleared, the invoice of goods above mentioned we expect, and remaine

Your assured loveing friends,
MATT^s. VINCENT.
EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 16th October 1677.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &CA.,

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 19th last month, wherein answered your severalls of y^e 24th, 29th August and 7th curreant, and had done it sooner, but of late your letters arrived not under 18^e or 20 daies thence, but hope now the freshes are abated we shall thenceforward receive them in fewer daies. We have received yours of the 20th and 28th last month, the which were the first 17 and the latter 15 daies on y^e way hither. We note what you write touching the Emperor's calling Nabob Shausteh came out of Bengall, and with you must awaite y^e event though as things seems now to stand with us in these parts suppose it would be better he continued, till we could bring our Master's business to some certainty, which now is far from us. We hope the king will give a favourable answer to y^e Nabob's Auzdars in our behalves, any alteration be made.

We hope the gold is now disposed off, it being more vendible with you in Decca and beares a better price then in any place in Bengall, which was the reason we sent it thither. The time of y^e yeare begins now to be late and therefore it imports you to be getting our Master's cloth ready as soone as possible, that if it may be we may have time to dispatch goods hence ere any order comes from aloft, we much fearing the worst; and if a sloop should come it would be soe late that ere we could possibly worke out a remedy the time for sending goods for England would be elapsed.

Concerning Mosely and Norton we can add noe more, then what you will see of the Accompt Generall which we intended according to its date, but have kept to this day by reason they tooke them out of the boate againe and have kept them prisoners ever since. We suppose they will be soe detained till Mellick Cassum arrives, and then tis like some accommodation may be made which we are the rather inclined unto in respect of y^e present great uncertainty and unsettledness of things in Bengall. If Mr. Fytch Nedham, as Mr. Vincent wrote him in his Particular of y^e 10th curreant can come to Hugly soe as to be back again to take charge of Decca factory by the time limited by the late Chief and Councell for Mr. Hervy's stay there, we give him leave to repaire hither, but it cannot be late in November, in that Mr. Hervy is positively ordered to deliver up all to said Mr. Fytch Nedham and to be in November in Ballasore to answer a charge preferred to y^e Hon^{ble} Company against him by Mr. Smith, &c.

Your bookes of Acco^{ts} and charges generall have received and shall want two coppies more of them, and your diary must be continued (to goe whome) till the end of November. What you have been forced to leave in blanke in those bookes, pray take care to bring orderly into your next; and as soon as leisure will permit we shall endeavour to fill up and rectify all accompts. Wee call not else to mind at present save that it should please God an order should come from the Emperor that we must pay custome, that in such case you keep soe well with the mutsuddies that you may have soe early notice of it, that if possible you may send us advyce of it four or five daies ere the Nabob's perwanna shall arrive hither about it. We remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 19th October 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 24th August, to w^{ch} we have onely to add that the confusion at Ballasore is or has been soe great through the sickness and mortallity there that we cannot to this day receive the most pertinent papers of our Master's affaires, soe that we shall not be able to send invoices

written for (both by you and other factories) till after the departure of this year's shipping, when shall goe in hand to put every thing in a due method.

Yesterday in the afternoone we received yours of y^e 3rd currant and are glad the petre boates at last are cleared, and that you are like to cleare the goods and treasure sent up. The conditions are hard but such as we might expect. In such times of uncertainty as these are, we hope you have taken care to write aloft about this business that we may be understood, and that noe custome was ever paid by us in Pattana but what duties we did pay has been alwaies in Hugly, &c. What you have thought convenient, if you have not yett written we desire you now to doe it and that effectually. Shausteh Caun is called away to come up to Hindoostan by the King, which though we think by meanes of his money he will never doe, yett at present it startles him and unfitts him and his Duan who are taken off with matters of this great moment to attend to any proposition we can make to him, soe that we feare it would be but labour lost to apply ourselves at present to him in this matter, nor are we unapprehensive that we may so soone put him in mind of the favour he did us the last yeare in writing to the King in our behalfe, when our whole business was stopped, from which he hath only reprieved us till y^e answer comes, and that he may, now he is called away, stop all our business againe out of a designe to gett what he can out of us though noe order should come from y^e King; and it is very likely it may not be in these times of great trouble in Hindoostan, besides to apply ourselves for a remedy against the Prince to Shausteh Caun seems not soe likely to produce any good effect except the Prince or his Duan should on result on y^e King's answer write as Waurist Caun did to him, by which time our application will be both necessary and more seasonable for your applications, therefore in the Companies affairs it behoves the Prince and the Court aloft we refer it to you to doe it soe as may be most for the quiett carriage of our Master's affaires to these parts, without awaiting our advices in every exigency of this nature, least thereby you slip those oportunities which by that time you can possibly have an answer since may prove irrecoverable. The custome which the King enordered us to pay the last yeare was but 2 per cent. as it is at Surrat soe that is strange the Duan should demand 5 and at the lowest 3 per cent. at Pattana, but y^e answer from y^e King to his letter will we hope put a peaceable period to this affaire.

Wee have not yett got a receipt of this Governour for y^e 3,000rs., his cash paid here this yeare, nor had we any at all by reason of the stop last yeare. All the others are with you in former yeares. In a few daies we hope to gett the writ for this yeare's present aforesaid, when shall send it you by a couple of cossids on purpose which will be time enough ere the date of your mochelkiee will be out. We shall not send any more boates up till heare further from you in it.

Your journall and leiger for last yeare and bookes of charges generall have received and expect the other two coppies. As you mention the Surrat bookes had we assistance you should not be put to write soe often, for but our number is soe deminished that feare till after the ship's departure we shall not be able to get them coppied out to send you. Beames and scales, pen, ink, and paper you shall be furnished with as soone as Mr. Vincent goes to Ballasore we hence haveing written for them but hitherto it seemes they are omitted to be sent us. We call not else to mind at present save that we remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 19th October 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated the 16th currant. We have now received yours of the 13th currant but not under five daies. We are glad to understand the safe

Arrivall of the boate with tin and copper. On examination of the matter here we find that one copper plate dropped into the river hence in carrying on board, as soone as the water abates we think to find it againe. In the interim on the first boate we shall send you another plate instead of it soe you may credit this factory according to the invoice sent with said goods. The letter to Pattana pray forward by a couple of good cossids. We call not else to mind at present. We rest

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 20th October 167

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated the 6th currant. Yesterday came to hand yours of the 12th present. The sloop *Arrivall* came before y^e factory yesterday, but we understand not why if there were noe more goods on board the *London* that you could not supply a full lading for her out of the *Casar*, but that she is come up almost in her ballast. When wee wrote you to send the treasure and goods that came in y^e *London*, in y^e *Arrivall*, we really supposed (as you might have tested by compareing ours of the 18th and 25th of last month) that the ship *Casar*, which came before the *London*, should have first been discharged of her treasure, and what goods the *Ganges* could carry, which since you did supply as it seemes from y^e shoare and the *London*, yet we think you ought not (on a note which you were the occasion off for want of an order), to have sent up the *Arrivall* soe empty as you did leave treasure and severall goods fitting for this place on board the *Casar* in y^e Roade. Now though this we hope may be noe great damage to our Masters, yett we cannot but think our resentments of it to you to prevent the like in the future since it probably may at another time prove more disadvantageous then at present wee hope it has.

Wee are glad the ships got noe more hurt in the late storme though cannot be too confident that the moonsoone is broken up, but that y^e next month we may have another such as this was. Y^e companies papers you sent we find very imperfect, as well as the bookes noe registers of letters of late date soe that for want of assistance shall not be able to send coppies of them home this yeare.

'Tis strange that you should wonder that we send Ballasore bookes to Ballasore, for we think it their propper place, and since you understand them soe well as you mention, we desire and order you to ballance them, which you say is the only thing that is wanting to perfect them, to effect which you need noe such great assistance though you have as such for your little business there as we have here. As for your acting as three persons there if it were soe it has been other's cases sometimes as well as yours though never wanted of it, and that in a factor where the business is more then in Ballasore, it need to be soe, that if those bookes be not finished wanting as you say onely to be ballanced, we have hopes we shall not be blamed:

If Mr. Smith can prevaile with our Governour here to let lose John Norton, which we notwithstanding many endeavours cannot yet doe, he shall come to Ballasore; and for the future we would have all propositions which immediately concernes not our Master's business sent us from the proposers themselves, that soe when we come to proceed on examination we may ground somewhat on the desires of the severall persons under their own hands. The cash books coppies we have received and refer all business of that nature till our busy times are over. It will not be amiss to turne away all those villianes that you find had cognisance of the theft in Ballasore, it being intollerable, they certainly thought that all woud dye else they would never have dared we thinke to have ventured on soe much at once. What you wrote about y^e lack was grounded on Mr. Master, whilst at Cosumbazar, he saying that he apprehended it not agreeing with y^e Companies orders to send them lack without sticks when they order

it with sticks or the sticklack, for he absolutely said he would not take it but turne it on the hands of those that bought it, if Mr. Master after sight allowed the sending of it home we approve of it likewise. It requires not much experience to understand that lack on the stick and the same beaten off are the same though not soe in respect of tonnage where we thought the ground of the order lay.

The ground or reasons of your protest against Captain Erwin for the mistake of his Mate we do not soe well now understand as possible may when come to Ballasore, for you never desired nor had order to take those chests of treasure on board y^e *London* on shoare, but we are not able as before noted to judge of this business here as shall be hereafter.

The paper inke, and ffactors' provisions we understand you sent off on board of Captain Goldsborough's ship *Bengall Merchant* which the Master of the *Arrivall* saw and demanded, but was answered they would not deliver any, wanting orders for their so doing from you. We shall not be able to doe anything without this paper, wherefor order you to send it on Mr. Reade's sloop which is ordered to come from Ballasore after the full moone.

On receipt of this we order that George Perrin fitt himself to goe of into the roade, there to remaine on board one of y^e English ships which you shall find most convenient, and take some sheets of paper together making six small paper bookes, upon 3 of which he is to inscribe Hugly goods and underneath the name of one of each of the three ships, the other must be entitled Ballasore goods and underneath the like manner the names of the ships, what goods we shall send downe hence, he is punctually to follow our orders (which shall come with each vessell), as to the lading them on board any or all of the ships for y^e which when performed according to said orders he must draw out a receipt in the booke inscribed Hugly goods, and haveing conveyed with the boatswaines make them signe in those bookes which he is to keep by him, and advise hither that he has received and delivered, and take the severall boatswaines' receipts for the said goods. What goods you send of from Ballasore he is exactly to follow your orders in the same manner in lading aboard the severall ships and to take receipts for the particulars in the bookes intituled Ballasore Goods, advising you accordingly as how as before directed. Wee call not else to mind at present, but earnestly recommend our Master's investment in that place to your care and dilligence and soe rest.

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 27th October 1677.

CAPTAIN THOMAS ANDREWS.

Wee have ordered the sloop *Lilly* to Ballasore Roade, and it is our desire and order that you will deliver on board her upon acc^t the Hon^{ble} Company as much tin, quicksilver, vermillion, and broadcloth as y^e Master of the sloop may judge a convenient lading for her. But in case you should not have any of those goods remaineing on board then we request you to assist her wth some ballast if need be, the vessell being presently to returne hither. With kind respects to you we remaine,

Your Friends to serve you,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

P.S.—If you send any of the goods aforesaid on the *Lilly* pray send up a letter of advice therewith.

M. V.

E. R.

GEORGE 'HERRON.

Hugly, 27th October 1677.

Captain Erwin being come up hither with intentions to take a survey of this river and the braces, &c., that he might be able to give the Hon^{ble} Company some satisfaction therein, and we being in hopes they will thereby receive encouragement for the future to send their ships into the river to their security and advantage, we have thought fit to order you to attend Captain Erwin and to proceed with him on board the sloop *Lilly*, the Captain intending to spend ten or twelve daies in searching the sands and channell, and when he proceeds for the road of Ballasore, we order you to goe on board the ship *Casar* and deliver our orders given you herewith to y^e commander or chief officer on board, and receive from thence a convenient lading of such goods as we have wrote for and withall hast convenient to returne for Hugly not goeing on shoare at Ballasore nor staying for any thing to be sent off from thence, the time of the yeare spending away that we must hasten^d downe our Master's goods, and you must therefore come as soon as possible to goe downe with the *Arrivall* Ketch. We wish you a good voyage and remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^r. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

*Hugly, 28th October 1677.*MR. SAM^{EL} HERVY, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated the 16th curreant in answer to all yours to that date received, since we have received yours of y^e 11th present and understand as you advise that the phirwanna you got out stops at Rajamaul, our friends at Cossumbazar had received and sent thither. We wish we could be cleare of Gaubarre at Cossun^b as we understand the Dutch are. We should be glad to have a phirwanna for our paying noe custome at y^e mint, for at present y^e country is at that suspence that we can neither mint nor sell our Master's treasure.

In the case of the mint you may safely give. Wee are sorry your cloth at Decca is likely to come short of what you advised, but hope you may yett get the weavers better to comply with musters agreed on, as that we shall yett have at least the quantity you formerly wrote us concerning. As for Wilson you must doe what you conveniently can without embroyling our Master's affaires thereby, for it will be better to let him take his course rather then by meddling with him to hazard the emplinging their business deeper. Your diary for month September have received. Mellick Cassum hath been long expected here but yet not come. In the meantime his sonn hinders us what he can nor has he yet delivered Norton and Mosely to us though we think he dares not send them to Decca least they both should complaine against him. We understand he is now formeing an auzdars against us that we trade very high, that we have ten or twelve ships or sloopes come this yeare to Hugly (more^d then ever was), that we hereon bring up merchants' goods cheating the King of his subjects customes not being content to be custome free onely ourselves; that we pay but rups. 3,000 pr. annum, that if we had paid custome it would have amounted to more than rups. 20,000 ere now. You must, therefore, to meet and answer these accusations preferred against us, keep an exact correspondence in the Raie's Durbar, though at a small charge (wherein desire you to be as frugall as possible the case will beare), that you may have notice of it, where you may offer this or such like in defence that our trade is not soe high as formerly, we haveing had for some yeares last past from four to six ships and sometimes more sent from Europe hither, and this yeare in all but three; that its time we had severall vessells of 1,000 and 1100 to 2000 maunds each come to Hugly, but that all of them (except two or three as usuall) came in their ballast

onely to carry our salt petre, the goods from Hugly to Ballasore, there being great danger in respect of the great seas below which make us afraid to venture our goods on open boates of their country; that we carry merchants' goods, steale custome, &c. You may say an accusation Mellick Zendy would have fixed on us but never yet could make any such thing appeare, nor that ever we doe any such thing it being against the principalls and honour of our nation.

For the last that our 3,000 rups. piscash comes not nigh what y^e custome will amount unto; you may answer that by the King's and Nabob's favour we trade hither, but that if it be but well considered how small our trade hath alwaies been, and that we have alwaies (when for severall yeares together, by reason of our warrs with the Dutch, we have had noe traffique at all) paid the said summe yéarely in Hugly, beside presents to y^e Nabob, &c., it cannot we hope be thought we trade in these parts without paying what an acknowledgement shall by himselfe on full consideration of the whole manner be found reasonable; to you must urge that our accuser is our great enemy; that he hath broken open our factory gates, and by force, after a most unpresidented, way, tooke two Englishmen who were the Hon^{ble} Companies prisoners there, and has all along continually abused us; and that though this and last yeare we have been forced before the time to pay in here y^e 3,000 rups. yearly piscash, yet we cannot to this day get a paper as usuall for it. This and the like you may argue, but we recommend it to your caution how you use these offensive arguments, but as that you consider Mellick Cassum how like to fall in his government here and at Ballasore, whither for continuance or not, &c., as you shall find there, but what we have limited in defence pray manage with your best skill that soe if possible we may get our Master's goods off these here how far at least this shipping ere any sloopes comes. This Governor hero being a headstrong fellow noe waies to be won and endeavoring it what we can. We remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^r. VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 29th October 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN.

LOVEING FRIENDS, &c.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 20th currant to w^{ch} refer you ex. chargeing the severalls therein to your observance. We have received yours of the 16th d^o., and have now sent Mr. Edwards downe to you, who is to act as second of that factory and you are to give him all y^e light you can (you saying you understand them very well) into those acco^s both for makeing up and ballanceing the last yeares as alsoe for buying up this yeare's d^o. to y^e present time, &c.

Wee admire you should not know where our Master's paper, quills, ink, &c. are when Mr. Bugden sent them on board y^e *Bengall Merchant* (as we are informed) and when George Herron proffered to bring them up he seeing them thereby chance, y^e mate (as well he might) refused to deliver them without order from Mr. Bugden, who sent them thither, for the which order it being bad weather George Herron could not stay and soe came without them; there is alsoe on board said ship, if not sent on shoare, a chest of canary of our Master's for *Bengall* No. 3 none sent ever arriving hither. This we order you to make enquiry after, and advise when you saw Mr. Marshall's cash chest come short of his cash booke or acco^t you should have advised immediately that you might have order hence about it, nor are we certaine but that thence may be summs of money issued out since his sickness which might be omitted to be entred, which pray inquiry into and advise the needfull.

The copy of Shausteh Caun's perwanna on Mellick Cassum wee have not yet seen, and looking for it amongst those confused papers you sent up if find

it you will have it herewith, otherwise pray search a little better for it there. Wee call not else to mind at present soe conclude.

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 1st November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

This place at present is soe beare of money that we cānot sell any of our Master's treasure, but are forced to take up for their occations at interest, wherefore have sent you four chests of Royalls, amount as of invoice inclosed, rups.—which desire and order you to sell as soon and as well as you can, and after wee shall send for what money we have occasion for here which is all from

Your loveing friends to serve you,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

P.S.—Wee desire you to write the full effect of these four chests as soon as possible unto us.

M. V.

E. R.

Hugly, 8th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated the 1st currant. We have now received yours of the same date. The copper plate we have found againe and on a boate now coming towards you we have put it, from which you may receive and advise us. We take notice of Mr. Knipe's arrivall from the mint. That acco^t when stated pray enter it into your bookes as formerly, and at first leisure send us a transcript of it. We shall in a day or two send you six bales broadcloth two-thirds red as you desire, and doe leave it to you to sell it to the best advantage, and for the most you can gett. Wee wish your Taffaties were all packed, and in this place 'tis strange you cannot get boards for chests for them. What you cannot get chests for you must pack in bales; what quantity in a bale you shall find best; we suppose about 200 peices may doe well, but if you can possibly get chests pack none in bales, and what you doe pack in bales let paper be put above and beneath the bale next to the Taffaties to keep them from being defaced by y^e packing stuff.

Wee much admire at y^e folly of James Harding, which since as you advise persists in, and soe is both useless to our Masters and alsoe gives bad examples to his fellow servants there. We order you to send him hither by the next conveyance, alsoe we order you to send Anthony Smith with him to be examined about Loveney's business. You have done very well in not allowing Harding his diett money since by denying what he is capable off in our Master's business we think he has intended himselfe unworthy of it. We shall alsoe send you some lead, about 200 maunds, and order you to sell it at such rates as you shall find most likely to vend it off fastest. What other goods of our

Masters you find requestable there pray advise us when you shall be fully supplied by

Your loveing friends,

MAT^{rs} VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 9th November 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

Our last to you was y^e 19th ultimo. We have now received yours of the 23rd being glad that at last you have been able to cleare y^e salt petre boates from Pattana, we hope they may yet get hither time enough if meet? not stops in y^e way at Rajamaul. We suppose they will not be imbarqued nor doe we feare anything if once they get cleare of the Princes Government, where we are sorry to understand that you and all men meet with such hindrances in trade. What you have written to us we have advised to the Agency as to some meanes for receiving and confirming our Master's decaying priviledges, and if you have any way further to propound we desire you would doe it, the which with our owne thought we should remit to the Agency, 'tis certaine if we procure not a phirmaund, that if not before as may be feared, yet questionless, at Shausteh Caun our present Nabob's death (he being a very old man) or remove, all our whole business in these parts, will be at a stop and in confession if an answer should come from y^e King that we must pay custome then we thinke. We withdraw.

We shall never bring the Nabob's Governours to any reasonable termes with us, but we shall for a yeare or two at least be lyable to be abused at pleasure of every Jackstraw in office as the poore Portugees in these parts are; the receipt we got this yeare for our 3,000 rups piscash in this place yearly extorted, we have inclosed sent you, and desire as soon as you have done with it to remit it us here againe, our officers here yearly demanding on giving a new receipt a sight and copy of the former yeares, we hope this may prevaile with the Prince's Duan, if not, we shall try what may be done with Shausteh Caun. Our friends at Decca have severall times desired to know in y^e open Durbar what answer y^e King had given about our trade in these parts, and have alwaies hitherto been answered by Reynundelol, y^e Nabob's Duan, that noe answer was yet arrived, and that we should not trouble ourselves about it but mind our trade as formerly. It will not——wth you think be seasonable to make any application either to Shausteh Caun or y^e Vizer at court for a phirmaund custome free untill this answer comes, but we desire you to be in a readiness against it shall happen that it to have a fitting person ready to send up an able Vaqueel to Court about this affaire. What can be done by meanes of Shausteh Caun we shall then try, and punctually from time to time shall give you advices according to which you may give orders to your Vaqueel at Court.

If for 400 rs. bribe you can get back y^e money deposited in Meirbar's hands acco^t custome it will be noe bad bargaine in that as we formerly wrote you it will be of good consequence by being Master of President for our future trade there.

You have had y^e substance of what written in y^e flort generall about procury of a phirmaund, and we now send you copy of the clause itselfe. We have very little assistance to goe through with much writeing work this yeare, and therefore cannot transcribe large letters, it not being of absolute necessity at present, since we have never omitted to give a perfect acco^t of all particulars in those advices which anywaies concerns your factory.

We shall see to get such a note as you intimate from our Governour. We yearly pay rups 3,000 here for our trade in all these parts, and if can procure it shall remit you by another express on purpose. In the interim this comes with y^e receipt for y^e rups 3,000 as aforesaid. Mahummood Amey Caun should come to be Vizier. We hope we may on remembrance of his father's kindness to

our nation by his meanes get a phirmaund. It will not be long ere we shall see what must be done, but we hope to get all our goods on boardship first, and then shall be at more leisure to argue the case with y^e Government. Bookes, paper, quills, beames, and scales shall be sent you as soon as we can procure them from Ballasore, whither we have ourselves written for them but hitherto in vaine, but hope suddenly to receive them. We caill not else to mind at present. Remaine

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 12th November 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Our last to you was dated October the 29th to which refer you We have now received yours of y^e 3rd curreant. Y^e Hon^{ble} Companies paper, &c., the Mate of the *Bengall Merchant* told George Herron, y^e Pylot of y^e *Arrivall*, that you sent on board, and that without your order he would not deliver it. We hope it will at last come up as you advise. Had y^ebu sent us an acco^t what goods you have remaineing or ready in ————— with no marks, &c., we could have better told you how to lade them. All hands being now with you suppose you doe not want assistance to finish your accompts. We shall take care on y^e sloopes to send you twelve bales ordinary red broadcloth. Looking now every day for the salt petre which we understand left Pattana y^e 23rd last month in company off P. O. of which Mr. Vincent intends, God willing, to come to Ballasore. In y^e interim we order you to be getting in what possible you can of y^e goods you have given out money on, and to be sorting, packing and putting that noe time may be lost.

Wee doe not well understand y^e nature of the difference you have lately had with y^e Governour, and therefore till doe shall say little in it at present, especially it being passed, but must remind you that soe many armed men as you mention ought not to be held out in y^e manner and to y^e place you mention, but on every extraordinary occasion, such we hope seldome doe or will happen in Bengall, and never to be used but with all amicable waies of taking up differences are obstructed, which you to act that y^e chief of Decca we are glad that noe mischief was done, and that all things are as they were, and with all order you to avoide by all meanes any such rash undertakeings for y^e future. The invoices you desire accompany these. Not else at present but subscribe

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 13th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Our last to you was of the 8th curreant. Yesterday we dispeeded four boates to you with fifty piggs of lead——this weight as alsoe six Bales qt 36 : halfe prices broad cloth $\frac{2}{3}$ red and $\frac{1}{3}$ green ; they all amount as of invoice inclosed unto Rupces 28,798 ; their disposcall recommend unto you, and remaine

Your very reall friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Engly, 14th November 1677.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Suddenly expecting Mr. Samuëll Hervy here according to orders formerly sent him, and not thinking it adviseable those troublesome and uncertaine times that you should both at once be long out of Decca, we therefore order you to repaire thither with all convenient hast, and if Mr. Hervy should not have left the place to take all remaines belonging to our Masters of him, and if he be come away to take them of whomsoever he hath left them with. You are to act the Durbar, &c., affaires of the Hon^{ble} Company there as Superintendent untill further orders. We strictly encharge to your exact correspondence hither, and punctually advices from time to time of all importances occurrences, particularly that you see keep in with y^e Ray's Muttsuddies that when answer comes from y^e king about our paying custome, we may have at least five or six daies time ere a perwanna be issued out and sent conveying it hither. Your bookes, diary, copy booke of letters, &c., we order you to keep exact and methodicall, and to send in your acco^t of cash monthly. We wish you your health, a good voyage, and rest,

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Engly, 16th November 1677.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND,

Our last to you was dated the 9th currant, to which refer you, and these are chiefly occasioned by a letter yesterday received from Decca intimating that our old Nabob Shausteh Caun is certainly turned out of the Government of Bengall, and that another Amraw named Anzzom Caun is coming in his steade. This or whoever it be that comes we thinke it very good that you visited him in his passage through Pattana, and therefore desire and order you to doe it unless you shall certainly find it prejudiciall to our Master's affaires which we cannot imagine how it can but rather advantageous. By this meanes propably you may attaine notice how the king has determined the business of our not paying or paying custome in Bengall, and give us such items in that and other necessary things as may better prepare us to encounter him at Rajamaul y^e Princes, Neshawn, &c. Persian papers of concerne lately and formerly sent you, which are or may be of use to the business of these parts you having done with them pray returne us if with security it may be done by a paire of able peons. It will behove us all to bestir ourselves in this juncture where in all the Hon^{ble} Companies priviledges long enjoyed in these parts see manifestly ly at stake, in consideration of which we the more earnestly recommend this affaire to your care, vigilancy, and exact advice hither, that we may the better know how to manage ourselves accordingly. The saltpetre patellees we had advice from Cossumbazar were ready to leave Rajamull the 9th currant, since which have had noe news of them though now begin to expect them daily. Wee are

Yo^r very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 16th November 1677.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM.

Our last to you was dated y^e 28th ultimo, since which came to hand yours of the 28th ditto and 7th curreant. The former was accompanied of 13 balls of our Master's Decca cloth which we have put waxcloth unto and repacked in bales, noe boards for chests at present being here procurable. Wee are sorry to understand by yours of y^e 7th that Nabob Shaaſteh Caun is turned out of his government of Bengall, especially at such a time when our Master's priviledges in soe weake a condition as now they are, and the grand question of our paying custome not yet resolved. We heartily pray that y^e new Nabob bring a favourable sentence concerning our trade from y^e king, as it may be he may, and then we hope everything may goe on in a better channell then formerly. Pray let us have constant and punctuall advice of all our occurrences material, and if by any meanes we could know from Roynundelol what answer we might expect from y^e king concerning our present impending trouble of custome it would give us some insight how may proceed the which we leave to you to get done, and rest

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT. . .

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 17th November 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 12th curreant. We have now received yours of y^e 9th d^o. We have now received in a wine chest severall factors provisions, viz., 15³/₄ rheames of all sorts of paper out of 30 d^o, 14 — of 48 d^o, with paper bookes of 18 d^o, one rundlet of ink, halfe out; noe quills nor inkglases as signified in y^e invoice, but hope to have an acco^t of all when come downe.

• Shaaſteh Caun's perwanna went by our last, but he is now turned out. A Nabob Fidei Caun new named Anzzam Caun is coming in his steed. Hodgee Soffy Caun, the King's Duan governes Bengall till his arrivall, and Moorola Caun goes for Orixá till the new Nabob's son shall arrive thither. What we wrote to you last as to methodizeing your business with the merchants, there, we still confirm M. Cassum 'on his turne of business begins to play his old tricks afresh, not giving us dusticks as formerly, and our petre boates after leaving Rojamul when we thought them cleare of all difficulties hapening to light upon an Aidy of the Nabob's at Meirdapore, who stopped them to carry up his Master's goods to Hindoostan and had given order for their takeing out their petre. Mr. Knipe is sent to see whither for a small bribe he can bring them off, in which we wish him good success; on consideration of which two things, Mr. Vincent haveing intended to leave this place the beginning of the next weake will be forced to stay somewhat longer to see what will be the event of them and accordingly to take order concerning them, in which interim we order you to hasten y^e Hon^{ble} Companies investment there, into y^e ffactory and sort, prize and pack up said goods ready to be shipped away; and if we should be detained here by that present exigency of affaires longer then ordinary, that you send on board what of the said goods can be taken in ere the saltpetre arrives; for which desire you to be referred to y^e commanders; if any oportunity happens suddenly. Pray send up four peeces of the Hon^{ble} Companies fine green, we haveing none here for presents.

Wee remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Hugly, 17th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.

Our last to you was dated y^e 13th curreant, since which came to hand yours of y^e same date, and are glad you have received the four chests of Royalls, of which hope you may sell notwithstanding the alteration of Government in the Tancksaul business will remaine up in y^e same hands untill the new Nabob arrives which we conceive will be at least three months. We are glad soe good a Governour as Mahomood Morad is to be in Ammodavad (till y^e Nabob comes downe) under whome we hope noe stops will be in our Master's affaires there, he haveing all along while formerly he was in place been very civill. The Nabob that comes downe is Phiddei Caun under the new name of Auzzum Caun, and his son is to be Nabob of Orisa. In y^e interim Nowrola Caun is to take that Government from Jassir Caun, y^e present Nabob's sonn; but that the Prince should come and live at Rajamaul we cannot believe it, being part of y^e Government of Bengall. We feare these alterations on y^e present great unsettled^m of y^e Companies affaires in these parts may be the occasion of great troubles if not totall stop of their business for some time in this kingdome, which we pray God avert, and that at least we may have soe much time as to lade these ships now in y^e Roade away ere the storme falls upon us. We would advise you to be spareing in your investment till see how things are like to fare for tis better to have the Hon^{ble} Companies money in house when an universall embarqueing may come, as may not without reason suddenly be expected, then abroad in the natives' lands because it may then be utterly lost. Your goods we order you to send away what can be gott ready as soone as possible. Scarlet we have here but not fine green, y^e former shall send you as soon as gett dustucks for it, they being on their new alteration or we know not what other fancy of M. Cassums afresh denied us though promised on them his yearly usuall present, in a day or two more shall see what he will doe or demand.

Wee are sorry after all those great stops that have hapned at Pattana on our Master's petre, that an unexpected one should fall on y^m by the Nabob's Aidy at Meirdapore. We hope that Mr. Knipe may prevaile by meanes of a small bribe with him to let them goe; but if it should soe happen that notwithstanding all meanes used you cannot get them cleare, but they will turne y^e petre on shoare, in such case we order you to gett what oxen possible about Colcapore, Meirdapore, &c., to bring it overland to you (if noe other boates after y^e Aidy shall be gone, and it be not too late to be procurable thereabouts) and let boates be ready on Cossumbazar side to receive it in as it comes, and as fast as laden proceed hither that at least we may take care to dispatch our ships after y^e other as we shall be able, but we shall be hugely glad to heare of their releasement, as we yet hope of it all as it is: this embarqued of y^e petre and unexpected crosses of M. Cassum will occasion Mr. Vincent's longer tarrying here then he intended since in case of such difficulties as these may be, it will not be adviseable for him to leave Mr. Reade alone, as he must be otherwise be sure y^e Hon^{ble} Company have ordered all, especially business of this nature, to be carried on by joint Councell, else he had appointed y^e beginning of next weeke for his departure hence, which now on this occasion must be a little longer prolonged. Wee call not else to mind save that we are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

The Petre is 15,400 maunds.

Hughly, 20th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was y^e 17th present, to which refer you. Just now received yours of y^e 17th ditto and are exceedingly concerned, the case requiring noe less at our Master's Petre being thus N^o thought all was cleare, stopped at Meirdapore, we have considered that to bring it overland by oxen to Cossumbazar will be to small purpose since we question not but Bulchund hath pressed all y^e boates procureable thereabouts, and to bring it hither on oxen would were it feisable, take up too much time, that ere it would arrive it would be time that the ships were dispatched from Ballasore. Wherefore we earnestly recominend it to you to solicit Bulchund in person yourselfe if can find noe other way to let y^e boates only come and discharge their ladeing at Hughly, and if he pleases he may send a man on all or each boat to whome we shall deliver them, and in two or three daies after their arrivall here hasten them back againe to Meirdapore. Pray use this way or any other conducive to this purpose backed with some money though it should be to y^e amount off Rs. 1,000 or somewhat more seeing it will be a very dead loss in dead freight &c. to our Masters should this petre be kept soe long that it cannot goe home on these ships. Wee earnestly recominend this business being of great consequence to your utmost endeavours, and remaine

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

Wee find by Mr. Hervy's coming by at Meirdapore at y^e same time when y^e petre boates were stopped that small boates are not soe much taken notice off, it would be well to try what of such you could procure in case you cannot gett y^e great ones cleare, and rather then faile to lade all on them we refer it to you and rest.

Y^{ours}

M. V.

E. R.

Hughly, 22nd November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.

Our last to you was dated y^e 20th currant. We have seen a particular letter from you intimating the obdurateness of Bulchund in his denying to let our Master's saltpetre boates goe from Meirdapore; that he feares to take a bribe, and that you have been advised to take y^e boates away by force. This latter course we thinke of doubtfull and dangerous consequence, such as we cannot see through, and therefore we cannot think it adviseable in y^e present condition of y^e Companies affaires in these parts. We therefore order you on receipt of this to draw up a paper or fuzd declaring the great damage will be done y^e company for want of ballast in their ships by keeping these boates whereby we shall not be able to get the petre aboard them this moonsoone, that we will certainly in soe many daies deliver these boates to him in Hughly or Meirdapore againe rather then faile he sending some of his own peons as Mohuffush on y^e boates hither, and that for his favor in this great exigency he shall have Rs. 1,000; this gett well worded and goe yourselfe to him delivering it to him when few people are with him with your owne hand, and it is possible you may prevaile, for force we dare not venture on it, the Hon^{ble}

Company having often enjoyed an amicable correspondence with y^e Government of this country, but never directed us to use force. We earnestly recommend this great affaire to your prudent management and as much expedition as the thing will beare.

We remain

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWARD READE.

SAMUELL HERVY.

Hugly, 22nd November 1677.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our Master's saltpetre boates being stopped at Meirdapore by Bulchund and ordered to unlade that he may have them for the Nabob's use to carry his luggage up to Hindoostan, the which will be an unspeakable loss to y^e Hon^{ble} Company in that we shall not be able to gett the saltpetre downe within these moonsoones for Bengall. We therefore order you to complaine to y^e Rae concerning this, and endeavour to get us license to bring our boates to Hugly, where shall deliver them to whome it shall be thought fitt for the Nabob's use. Pray be quick in your advices of all kinds to us since it may be of great importance to our Master's affaires in y^e present troublesome posture of things in these parts.

We are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

SAM^{ll} HERVY.

The business of the Tancksaul custome being very detainentiall to our Masters' business, treasure selling and coyning very slowly, till that be determined we order you to use your utmost endcavours to put a good issue to that affaire.

M. V.

E. R.

S. H.

Hugly, 23rd November 1677.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM; &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was yesterday morning. In y^e evening arrived yours of the 12th currant, whereby understand you have sent by boates four bales of Dacca cloth hitherward being y^e remainder of what investment made there this yeare and y^e fall. And of what to be expected thence, wee could heartily wish the business of y^e mint were brought to some good issue till which be done we shall not be able to find vend for our Master's treasure which lies still a great part in the house unsold, noe merchants, till y^e mint custome be determined, being willing to put any treasure in to be coined. We hope your next will give us an Acco^t of its consummaotin.

Wee hope you have not failed soe to bestir yourselves as to gett the phirwanna newly granted us by the Nabob for our free trade in Bengall againe perfected and into your hands that it may be of good consequence to our Master's affaires to procure the like of this new Nabob at his first comeing, whereby the question of our paying custome we hope may againe for some time be forgotten till we can one way or other make way to gett this Emperor's phirmaund for all our-priviledges in these parts; in this and all your expences we injoyne you all y^e frugallity can be yet soe as that y^e business (especially when of such consequence as this seems to be) may not be starved thereby. We call not else to mind save Well-wishes for your health and prosperity and rest

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

SAM^{ll} HERVY.

P.S.—As soone as ever you can gett y^e Nabob's phirwanna finished pray dispeed it thither with four coppies attested by y^e Cozzee.

M. V.

E. R.

S. H.

Hugly, 24th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.

Our last was of the 22nd currant. We have now received yours of y^e 20th November, with the bad news of our masters' petre being turned ashore and y^e pattalees carried away by force by the old Nabob's illnatered officers, the which we are heartily sorry to understand, in that it will now be impossible to get it downe time enough to lade on these Europe ships this moonsoone, but we have thought on this expedient (intending to send away y^e ships as soone as usuall) to fraught up severall vessells hence sending them by the 5th of January at furthest to rights to Madrass with this petre. If therefore you can possible procure carriage by land or by water or both but y^e rather the latter because cheaper, which we strictly order you to endeavour and with as much expedition as y^e present circumstances of affaires will suffer you, soe as that the saltpetre may according to good probably be in Hugly by the 25th of next month at furthest, we enorder you to send it downe to this place for should it soe happen that these goods should remaine behind this yeare it will prove a vast loss as well as disappointment to our Hon^{ble} Masters. Not else at present.

We remain

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

SAM^{ll} HERVY.

Hugly, 26th November 1677.

MR. THO. BROWNE.

The Hon^{ble} Companies affaires requiring our spediest advices to the Right Worpⁿ Agent and Councell at Madrass, we have therefore made fitt the sloop *Lilly* for this purpose, and order you upon receipt hereof to go on board hei

and proceed forthwith directly towards Madràss making all possible hast you can for the speediest arrival thither, and not stay at Ballasore or any other port till you get thither, where, when please God, you arrive you are to deliver our letter to the Right Worpⁿ Agent, &c., and for your future proceedings to follow such order as they shall think fitt to give you. We wish you a good voyage and remain

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Hugly, 28th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Our last was of y^e 24th present, since which we have received your severalls of y^e 20th, 22nd, and 21th d^o, which came to hand just as we were about giving orders in persuance of a consultation held here y^e 24th curreant to you that if boates were not procurable for our Masters' petre that then should endeavour to hire oxen and to endear both by land and by water to gett it downe hither if to be effected and brought hither y^e 25th next month at furthest having resolved to despatch y^e ships by y^e middle of next month. We are glad to understand by yours of y^e 24th that 17 bunglows are got ready and now laden, for we were afraide though resolved noe endeavours should be wanting in our side, that as soone as the Nabob shall be removed our whole business will be stopped, till can gett the new expected Nabob's perwanna which hope may be done. Sbausteh Caun haveing promised to graunt us a new phirwanna for our free trade at his goeing away which we have hope will prove a good ground for us to procure one from Azzum Caun at his arrivall. We desire all sorts of boates may be hired so as if possible it may get here time enough to be yet laden on y^e Europe ships, the which will be a great charge saved to our Masters. You have well observed that Jaffer Caun's dustuck is of noe greater force then ours, and we hope Mr. Nedham and Mr. Collins together may be able to procure boates of one sort or another enough for y^e whole quantity of petre.

As to takeing charge of Boolchund's carpett, &c., as you mention, since he has been so civil, you may agree to what he desires if persists still in it remembering all necessary cautions for our security.

We are glad our Masters' boates of lead and broadcloth are come. We still are of opinion that it will be not convenient to have any considerable summe in weavers or Picanes hands till what shall be able to doe with this new Nabob though are very sorry we should thereby againe miss this November bund of raw silke bund, but there is noe remedy and we must supply its defects by the silke of March, which if seasonable weather happens at that time will not come much behind it. James Harding is arrived hither who remaines as he did in y^e ffactory till y^e sloopes proceed to Ballasore where he shall be examined about all things laid to his charge. Your Taffaties, &c., goods all which we desire you to hasten will be wellcome y^e yeare spending apace.

We remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Hugly, 28th November 1677.

MR. EDMUND BUGDEN, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 17th curreant since which have received yours of y^e 20th, together with y^e coast letters and generall from y^e agency wishing you had sent all advices y^e came from those parts. As to

those five chests I noe one here knows anything of them, that marke W. C. may possibly belong to Mr. Clavell.

'Tis strange you cannot prise the goods which you sort and pack and that giving halfe money and halfe goods on an Investment should any waies hinder it. Surely if y^e goods received in can be packed after it's paid, it may much better be done while in y^e factory, besides what goods you have given this yeare, if you have followed orders, been at such rates as they have been the same already, and y^e good agreed for at rates accordingly. Had we liked y^e usuall custome of that factory of shipping off y^e goods bought there and prizeing them afterwards we should not have troubled ourselves or you to have given another order, but haveing well considered immethodicalness, as well as many other inconveniences thereof, we give you timely orders about which we enjoyne you to follow, and not only what goods you shall have packed since y^e receipt of said orders, but whatever packed before prised and the merchants acquainted therewith or directed two daies time given him at most to agree to it or carry away his goods returning y^e money and goods with y^e advance mentioned in contract. This we stricktly enjoyne you to doe, it being your business, and Ballasore being as distinct from Hugly as any other factory in Bengall you will find yourselves answerable for all things therein by you transacted therein.

Those timbers, &c., Mr. Edwards has brought an acc^t. off 'as wanting to compleat y^e warehouse at Cossumbazar since y^e other sent up formerly proved weake and unusefull we order you to provide ready to be shipped off on y^e first opportunity.

Our petre was all throwne ashoare by the Nabob Shausteh Caun's servants and y^e boates carried away by force, the which advised two daies agoe by y^e sloop *Lilly* (bought for that purpose) to y^e Wopⁿ. Agency, but last night had advice that we had 17 *bazgelas* at Meirdapore and were ladeing them, soe hope a good quantity of our petre if noe stop as last yeare happens may yet be gotten downe ere these ships depart. Pray get everything ready and your goods as fast prised and baled, let them be shipped off that when we arrive we may not be troubled with any of your business above noted. We call not else to mind at present.

Remaine

Your loving friends,

MATT^s. VINCENT.

EDWⁿ. READE.

Hugly, 29th November 1677.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 23rd since which have received yours of y^e 12th and 16th ditto. Y^e former is four bales, which you say, is all of our Masters cloth we can expect from your factory this yeare, we wish it could have been a greater quantity. We are sorry by yours of y^e 16th to understand y^e ill success of y^e Taucksaul affaire. Wee have now laden most part of y^e Hon^{ble} Companies goods now here, and shall dispatch them hence to prevent what in us lies these being stopp'd by your Duan, who seems to intend it as soone as y^e Nabob leaveing Decca and he comes into place. Pray if any such perwanna as came last yeare for demanding afresh be intended us be sure you make y^e Duans Mutsuddies soe much your friends as that if possible it may be soe many daies retarded as that we may have sufficient warning to gett what remaining goods shipped off and to prepare ourselves to endure y^e brunt. The Nabob Shausteh Caun's new perwanna promised lately for our future trade in these parts, pray faile not to gett and coppies as formerly desired.

We remaine

Your loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWⁿ READE.

SAM^{ll} HERVY.

Hugly, 30th November 1677.

MR. EDWARD READE.

MR. JOHN BYAM.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

The season of y^e yeare being very far spent, I am now goeing down to Ballasore to see how forwards all things are there, whither in reference to severall examinations enordered by our Masters Mr. Reade must suddenly follow. I leave this as a remembrance for what by you to doe in y^e Hon^{ble} Companies business. The goods contracted for this yeare in this factory as P y^e severall merchants and weavers notice left with you. pray gett as many of them in as you can, and sort, prize, and send y^m away so as that they may be in y^e roade by y^e 20th day next month. What cannot be got in soe as to come by that time the merchants must keep and repay the money according to contract, the Hon^{ble} Companies saltpetre w^{ch} has detained me in Hugly is (as just now understand) laden four days agoe on 56 boates. That of which came from Meirdapore y^e 25th currant, this alsoe, as it pleases God, it shall arrive, pray lade what docked vessells are all ready here and procurable, and send them down to Mr. Perrin in Ballasore roade; the rest lade on *Boreas* hired here for that purpose, referring only a jocund lading for y^e two sloopes y^e *Arrivall* and y^e *Ganges*, which shall be dispatched out of Ballasore hitherward the same day they are unladen, but in case you have notice from Decca whither we have by severall letters taken orders to give us immediate notice as alsoe to get such an order delayed four or five daies if it should come that a stope is likely to be put as it was last yeare upon our Masters' business, then immediately lade all away on *Boreas* may gett below *Fanna* ere y^e sloop may arrive. The goods you send downe pray proportion them in this enordering soe to lade them aboard but alwaies lett y^e *Bengall Merchant* have y^e greater proportion what goods will not fall into just thirds. I call not else to mind save heartily wishes for your success and to subscribe.

Your very loveing friend,

MATTHIAS VINCENT.

The Pattana invoice of saltpetre is not yet received. Pray bring or send it down to Ballasore. Mr. Jaffery and Mr. Brochelsby have each of them received 100 rup^l. acco^t. their fraught of saltpetre to Ballasore which pray deduct.

The saltpetre it being now very late in y^e yeare takes onely two or three baggs out of a boate and let be weighed to see how it holds out the rest; let it be carried as it comes to y^e vessell side on which it must be laden, and so taken in putting some new baggs aboard so that if any breake they may be shifted therewith.

Y^{dem}

MATT^s VINCENT.

Ballasore, 14th December 1677.

MR. GEORGE PERRIN.

We should be glad to heare of y^e arrivall of y^e two sloopes that come from Hugly with Mr. Reade, much wondring what is become of them; as soon as the *Boreas* or great boats from Hugly arrive to the roade pray advise us that we may send our goods off hence which the commanders have desired us to wave till they can have a quantity of petre to stiffen their ships. What goods of our Masters remaineing aboard the *Bengall Merchant* or *Cazar* pray send ashore by any good conveyance. What is aboard the new *London* left remaine aboard till y^e Companies sloopes arrive, and then let all be put aboard them.

We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDMUND BUGDEN.

P.S.— Lett the tin aboard the sloop *Mary* remaine there, and what else is in y^e *London* lett be put upon y^e Companies sloopes when they come.

M. V.

E. R.

E. B.

Ballasore, 14th December 1677.

MR. GEORGE PERRIN.

Wee are very glad since y^e foregoeing of this date to understand the sloopes and boras with y^e petre, &c., are arrived. By each sloop you have directions where to put on board all y^e goods of y^e Hon^{ble} Companies in them, which you are punctually to follow, haveing great care to y^e markes and numbers of each particuler, and after the sloopes are unladen you are to make a computation of what saltpetre is already put on board the English ships and what more you have advice off come on y^e *boras*, and accordingly to lade that on y^e Europe ships, so that each of them may have equal thirds of y^e petre; onely you must remember that to make up the one-third for y^e *London* there will 700 bags come by the *Arrivall* and *Ganges* with which you are to compleat that ship's proportion.

Capt. Goldsborough hath write to his mate about y^e forcing goods away, and we hope he nor noe others will dare doe soe againe; if they should it will create them and us a great deale of trouble, soe pray tell them, and you must compute the lading of y^e petre according, keeping soe much as was ordered to y^e *Cezar* out of y^e other quantity ordered to y^e *Bengall Merchant*; if any ship exceeds in quantity of saltpetre as where odd baggs or bales are let it be y^e *Bengall Merchant*.

Wee are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

The boatswaine's receipt for goods out of y^e advice on board the *Cezar* we have returned you, and order yor^t as their commanders have now enjoyned them, to make y^e boatswaines give another, and all others for y^e future (and before if any) in y^e bookes you keep for that purpose.

M. V.

E. R.

E. B.

S. II.

Ballasore, 20th December 1677.

MR. GEORGE PERRIN,

Wee have received yours of y^e 19th and take notice what petre is laden on each ship, what remaineing on y^e *Hanniball* as alsoe on y^e two boras lately come into y^e roade, the former as you write, being 415 baggs and y^e latter 340 ditto. We order you to lade aboard y^e *Bengall Merchant*, the which will make her quantity of petre 2,856 baggs; and if you should have laden any of y^e before mentioned add out of the *Hanniball* or Bora which, according to your letter we hope you will not have done till our orders; then you must

supply that quantity of what you want of it out of the very next quantity that shall arrive from aloft, but we hope this will supply all; the goods that went hence yesterday hope will suddenly be laden and enordered in thirds aboard; if you can, let y^e *Bengall Merchant* have six bales of Ballasore goods more than her share, here being still a dozen bales behind, and deduct it out of y^e other two ships' thirds; when you have thus done pray send y^e receipt bookes for the *Bengall Merchant* ashore, that we may draw out bills of lading and dispatch her. The whole quantity of petre expected and come from Hugly and this place makes 8,548 baggs of which according to y^e foregoing order you are to lade (in all) on y^e *Bengall Merchant* 2,856 baggs or thereabouts, the rest expected must be soe laden as that y^e *Cezar* and y^e *London* may have an equall share; pray be quick in your answer, and sending the receipt bookes ashore.

We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

Ballasore, 21st, December at night, 1677.

MR. GEORGE PERRIN.

Wee have received the booke of receipts belonging to y^e *Bengall Merchant*, but wonder you would send it before it was perfected and you had put on board y^e *Bengall Merchant* all we have ordered; we have returned it to you and order you to perfect it with all imaginable speed and returne it againe immediately to us.

We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

Ballasore, 22nd December 1677.

MR. GEORGE PERRIN.

Wee wrote you last night to which refer you, and then sent you back againe your bookes of receipts for y^e *Bengall Merchant*. If anything omitted to make up her compleate lading as enordered or mistake in said whether it be in the goods come down from Hugly or sent off hence, pray faile not to rectifie it ere you send it ashore againe. which be sure, if possible, to doe soe as that it may be here by Munday morning at furthest, for that day, God willing, we intend to dispatch that ship, the which haveing received y^e 2,856 baggs of saltpetre and her proportion of all other goods as in ours to you of y^e 20th currant and formerly sent you. Pray lade y^e remaineing petre come and to come &c., goods on board the *Cezar* and new *London* soe that each may have an equall part of both accounting what each hath already aboard and to be laden for. We understand that the *Cezar* has near 700 baggs of petre on board her more then the *London*; pray reduce them by y^e meanes of what petre come already, and to come downe to an equallity and keep them soe in their proportion of that and all other goods, and this for y^e future observe as a standing rule for your present lading them, unless you shall receive a generall

order for alteration in any particular, and henceforwards stay not for any order hence, but lade all goods that comes from Hugly as above specified for y^e *Bengall Merchant*; receipt bookes ashore, but let all her lading be finished ere you send it to

Your vary loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

SAM^l HERVY.

P.S.—When you have laden the anchors and gunns and what ballast Captain Erwin tells us is on board the *London* on y^e two sloopes, we suppose they will be stiff enough and then pray send them in.

Y^e

M. V.

E. R.

E. B.

S. H.

Ballasore, 24th December 1677.

CAPTAIN JOHN GOLDSBOROUGH.

The season of y^e yeare being now growne exceeding late, we have been necessitated to keep you soe long by reason of y^e great stopps we have mett this yeare principally about the petre and y^e slowness of conveyance from Hugly when at last it arrived thither. You now having what thought convenient to lade on you, we order you immediately to repaire on board your ship the *Bengall Merchant*, and to weigh your anchor and sett saile bending your course with y^e best of your skill and judgement for y^e most speedy attaining the port of Madras, where you are to repaire on shoare and carry our generall letter to y^e Hon^{ble} Governour, &c., Councill and to follow their orders for your farther disposeall.

In your way up you are to touch at Metchlepatam with your ship, there to take in what goods the Commissioners there have orders from y^e said Hon^{ble} Governour and Councill at Madras to lade on board you. We wish you a good voyage and remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

SAM^l HERVY.

The 29th December y^e like dispatch was given *mutatis mutandis* to Captain Thomas Andrews, Commander of y^e *Cezar* and to Captain George Erwin, Commander of y^e new *London*.

Y^{des}

M. V.

E. R.

E. B.

S. H.

Ballasore, 4th January 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

Wee have received yours of y^e 13th and 16th November of y^e 7th and 12th of last month, w^{ch} we had answered ere now, but that we have bin fully employed in dispatching y^e Europe ships, y^e *Bengal Merchant* saileing out of this roade y^e 25th ultimo and y^e *Cæzar* and *New London* y^e 29th d^o, late all of them as to y^e time of y^e yeare, but early if consider y^e great stops.

Wee note that y^e Dutch troubles are greater then ours, and what they have paid for onely getting their opium from Pattana; we hope ere this arrives that y^e King will have ordered the remaineing part of y^e 1,200 rups. you paid y^e Prince's Duan to gett y^e saltpetre thence to be repaid you. Wee had followed your advice in applying ourselves to Shausteh Caun about our troubles in Pattana, but he being turned out and wholly taken up about his own affaires, we could never meet a good oportunity for that or any other business we had depending at Decca, the Duan at Decca telling us at last, before the Nabob's Duan's face, that till we gett the King's phirmaund that we must pay y^e custome of 5 per cent. at y^e mint, though y^e new Nabob comeing so suddenly downe there is nothing done about that or our other maine question, whether we must pay custome in Bengall or not, onely Roy Nundelol, y^e Nabob's Duan, advises us that to y^e time the old Nabob set out off Decca, w^{ch} was in y^e beginning of last month, there was noe answer come from y^e Emperor about us. The eleven receipts for y^e 3,000 rups. piscash at Hugly we have not found yet. Pray advise us what time you sent them thence.

The coppies of your bookes for 1673-74 we have received and sent home; beames scales, and paper we shall bring up to Hugly with us and send you forward. We have not what to say to y^e Prince's servants taking y^e Hon^{ble} Company's Seal and y^e Dutches vermilion away by force, but are sorry they are suffered by him, such forces being absolutely destructive to trade.

A copy of your bookes for last yeare, we have received and are glad you gott the goods and treasure from y^e Meirbars choubootra without opening; you doe not write about sending you up any more lead or other goods which we desire you to doe that you may be furnished from Hugly accordingly.

Wee are very glad you have gott y^e Duan's dustuck to trade there, that you may be giving out on petre we conceive it may be good. Since Auzzum Caun, the new Nabob is come into his Government, being doubtless now in Decca, that we first see what may be done with him on presenting him; when if he can gett his phirmaund as of former Nabobs for our free trade we shall if it be thought fitt be able y^e more calmelly to endeavour to gett all confirmed by y^e Nabob's phirmaund, but if he stopps all till that be gotten then shall we haveing nothing to doe till that be procured. God onely all for the best.

Wee judge that if the Dutch Commendore at Dilly have not done much ere Shausteh Cawn arrives there, that he will prevaile little against him afterwards, his interest being as great among those corrupt officers, &c., as his wealth. We are glad you received the bill for y^e 3,000 rups. paid yearly in Hugly, and hope it may prove effectnall to the end it were remitted you, for which doe pray send it in againe, as alsoe Shaw Shuza's Neshawn, for we shall want it to shew this new Nabob, together with Cawn Cawn and Shausteh Cawn's phirmaund when we desire his dustuck or phirmaund for our free trade. Amber, hafted knives, &c., rarities we shall bring up to Hugly and send to every ffactory its share.

Wee are sorry ours of the 16th last month was soe long on its way from Cossumbazar to your residence. We heartily wish you have seen the new Nabob of whome we are glad to receive soe good a character, praying God he may make it good in his gover^{nt}, we know not how he may or will order things, but we find all places full of troubles having lately from Hugly had advises that the new officers there (whome we hope this Nabob will change) threatens to stop all our business till gett the King's phirmaund. What this may turne unto know not but hope we shall suddenly understand having three daies agoe dispatched Mr. Reade thither, and intending to follow ourselves in twelve or

fourteen daies more. We hope the treasure is sold long ere now, and desire you from time to time to advise us what you shall have further occasion for y^e inves^t enordered this yeare by y^e Hon^{ble} Company. We call not else to mind at present save cordiall wishes for your health and prosperity and conclude.

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^L HERVY.

Ballasore, 4th January 1677-78.

MR. FYTCH NEDHAM, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

We have now to answer yours of the 29th November and 4th and 14th ultimo, and are sorry thereby to understand that our hopes of a new phirmaund from y^e old Nabob are quite dashed. If you have been sensible that y^e whole business was onely a flumme raised by your Vacquel you should have endeavoured to have discovered the truth, and when appeared so to, have severally checked the Vacquel for daring to impose on you in things of y^e nature not to doe soe againe in things of greater import. We admire y^e Emperor's answer to y^e Nabob's letter concerning us should not yett be arrived. Pray God it may be answer of peace. When it does come to send Vacqueel to attend Shausteh Caun in hopes of his phirwanna or anything else, now he is actually turned out we with you thinke it unnecessary, for if he could not favour our business ere he left Decca he cannot doe much less afterwards when he has left his place of command.

Tishangee, the King's Duan, haveing here shewed us soe much friendship should soe much insist on our paying 5 p. cent. custome at y^e mint when, at perusing the King's order in that case, we can find noe such thing there, but rather that none are to pay any custome, its not unlikely but that Roy Nundelal (who spoke in our favour to him) not being friends might make him threaten us in this affaire, but we hope to have a better result both of this and our maine concerne in Bengall from y^e new Nabob, who, according to all advices, long ere this must be arrived in Decca, whome you may (if not already done) visit with 7 or 9 mohurs and 15 rups., and make our excuse to him that we did not visit him at his passing by at Rajamale in that we were all gone downe, it being the exact time of y^e moonsoone, at which time onely the ships can goe away hence, and that we did not know y^t he would have come soe soone, other great Umbrahs not making soe much way in three months, as he has done in little more then a month; also you must add that we are coming now up to Hugly whence shall send to present him and desire his favour to our business under his Government as y^e Prince Sha Sujah and other Umbrahs had done before him; if he demands a sight of our former perwanna you may shew him the attested copy of that which was gott out before the troublesome business of y^e demand of custome fell upon us; all other papers as Sha Sujah's Neshawne, you may tell him are in y^e chief ffactory, and on his order shall be sent him. To all this you may add or diminish from it as you, in your own discretion or consideration of things there, shall find most convenient, though y^e less discourse be used about our trade, untill we can appeare with a present there, we suppose y^e better.

We take notice that Mathew Shepard had delivered y^e ffactory remains to Mr. Fytch Nedham; alsoe that there are rups. 3,980 in cash; your diary for y^e month of November have received and sent forward with the rest to England. We observe that Nabob Shausteh Caun left Decca the 8th last month, and as before mentioned suppose Auzzum Caun, our new Nabob, was not long ere he arrived thither.

The *Bengall Merchant* sailed out of this roade y^e 25th ultimo, and y^e *Cæzar* and *new London* y^e 29th ditto. God send them well about y^e Cape, being

very glad however, it may please God we shall escape this yeare that yet those ships are gone though somewhat late, with what goods we had got ready for our Master's acco^t. this season, we much feareing especially when their saltpetre was cast ashore at Meirdapore, that we should never have got y^e goods off y^e shoare, houerly on this change of Govern^{mt}. expecting news from your residence.

We are
Your loving friends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d BUGDEN.
SAM^l HERVY.

Ballasore, 4th January 1677-78.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &^{ca}.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Wee have received yours of y^e 23rd and 27th November and of y^e 14th ultimo. The 22 bales and ballet of raw silke and y^e 220 chests of Taffatics, fine we received, y^e saltpetre alsoe, all of it (blessed be God) came at last safe into Hugly the next morning after which Mr. Vincent departed from Hugly to Ballasore.

Wee are glad you have sold those four chests of (?) and returned 30,000 rup^s. of y^e money to Hugly, y^e receipt of which there alsoe. We have understood the invoice of your goods am^t. 70,739-11³/₄ we have received; our hurry here at shipping them on board haveing but one man on board of y^e Comp^{ys} servants to looke after it has occasioned some mistakes w^{ch} hope to rectify at more leisure on our returne at Hugly; we are sorry you could not comply with our quantity enordered of red and yellow ordinary Taffatics, and hope that though it was late ere you gave out money on them it was because you had wanted money sooner to give out money on them and not from any neglect of yours; what last (we heare) came downe to Hugly came too late, all whose markes must be altered about w^{ch} we shall agree and give you more particular directions from Hugly, finding that soe great diversity of markes we are generally made with, you give us much trouble, occasioning great mistakes at shipping off and drawing our generall invoices here.

Wee have found the generall bookes in great confusion, soe that for want of time have been forced to send them home unballanced, but hope God giving life and health to rectifie all acco^{ts} therein, and to make eaven all differences between y^e subordinate ffactories and Hugly, where shall alsoe draw out all invoices, wanting or imperfect, and send to y^e severall places aforesaid; the shoomake and fine sope you write for (your letter) comeing in the heat of business, being on dispatch of y^e first ship, we forgott to advice home about or y^e barrell of sope proveing a cask of 'cuchaneall, but shall not omit it next yeare. However desire you what you shall want of this kind for y^e future that you would advise in a paper apart signed by your Diers, which shall be in that nature sent home to y^e Hon^{ble} Com^{rs}. Seacole these ships were but scarcely provided with, allsoe that we could get none; it's possible had your advise come sooner about it, as we desire may next yeare, we might have prevailed with y^e commanders to have parted with some on promise of receiving as much at y^e ffort.

Your bookes of acco^{ts}., &c., papers we have received and they are sent forward to y^e Fort and England. As soone as we can meet at Hugly, which hope will be in twenty daies more, we shall compute our quick stock goods, &c., and enorder your full proportion, by which time alsoe shall have heard something from y^e new Nabob at Decca, and be able to take some aime thence as to what may and may not be done this yeare in these parts; in y^e meantime since silke is forbidden to be sent to Guzarat, we believe that the picars, rather then sit still, will be induced to engage to deliver us in about 300 bales of raw silke by the end of February, we makeing some such engagement as this, viz., to

take it of them if according to muster, and that we will pay them their money in full within such a time (suppose a month or two) after the date of their contract, and in case we should not pay it them as agreed, that then from that time till paid to allow interest; some such way may be used we recommend to your discretion, being very willing to secure as considerable a parcell of this bund of silke (being the best of the whole yeare) as we can.

The weavers, we judge, you must put off and give them out as little money as possible you can, these times being very uncertaine, and you know if a stop should be laide on our business as we have much reason to feare, that there will a great part of that money in the weaver's hands (who are generally knaveish, and live onely from hand to mouth) may prove bad debts. After we have heard from this new Nabob at Decca we shall be able to give you further orders in y^e matter.

We had once hopes from Decca y^e Nabob Shausteh Caun would give a new perwanna, but it seemes it was but a flamom, for y^e Ray has since told us it could not be; and said noe longer agoe then y^e beginning of last month that y^e Emperor had written noe answer about our paying custome or not in these parts. If we can on presenting this Nabob get this phirwanna and penned as our last good one was, we shall then, since we have orders for it, find better leisure to attempt for a phirmaund from y^e Emperor; a little time more will shew us what we must trust unto.

We remaine;

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

The *Bengall Merchant* sailed hence y^e 25th ultimo, the *Cæzar* and *New London* y^e 29th ultimo. God send them all safe about y^e Cape to England.

Y^{dem}.

M. VINCENT.

E. B.

S. H.

Ballasore, 4th January. 1677-78.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Your severall generalls dated y^e 11th, 15th, 18th, 19th, and 26th of last month have received, but not answered untill now, being at more leasure at y^e Europe ships' departure.

The booke of charges generall for Hugly factory we received and sent home, as alsoe Decca diary which you handed to us. We wonder when you laded 800 baggs of y^e petre on the sloop *Arrivall* that you did lade noe more then 200 d^{to} on y^e sloop *Ganges*, who is full halfe the burden of the former, and ought to have had halfe as much as the other.

We approve of your paying off what standing out at interest on our Masters' acco^{ts} with you, and of y^e Rs. 30,000 newly arrived from Cossumbazar. At Mr. Reade's leaving the place whereby this time we hope he is againe arrived we note that you have received rup. 1,000 of Herridass on lead formerly sold him.

The Pattana generall and bookes accompanying we received and sent y^e latter forward; y^e bills of ladeing for y^e sloopes alsoe came at last, but find some mistakes which we hope shortly to rectify; the invoicees of Romauls and Mullmulls alsoe, received with two small boxes of musters of Cossumbazar Taffaties, after which what goods you have or shall receive from thence or any of

y^e inland factories pray let be carefully housed; we hope in twenty daies to be up at Hugly with you. In y^e interim remain,

Your loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDM^D BUDGEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

The bookes of acco^{ts} last year which Mr. Reade forgott behind him in y^e office here we have sent by this cossid now, being more sudden and safer then by sea, desiring him to be rectifying them what he can ere we come in order to ballanceing them, and beginning new ones, which are too much behind hand.

Y^{dem}

M. V.

E. B.

S. H.

Ballasore, 18th January 1677-78.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

ESTEEMED FRIENDS, .

This yeare's acco^{ts}. with the towne merchants here being made up, and their last yeare's remaines (occasioned by leaving on their hands a considerable parcell of Saunaes) as P the severall bills leaveing with you, we order you to proceed in receiving of y^e said merchants nillees, gingham, romauls, and hummums at prizes *viz.*, nillees head of the 1st sort, 4 Rs. 2 As; nillees head at 2nd sort, 3 Rs. 8 As. P piece; Gingham head 2 Rs. 12 As. P p^r; romauls co-share head at 5 Rs. 12 As. P p^r; romauls Radugur or Chandurcome at 4 Rs. 12 As. P p^r; and hummums head at 4 Rs. P p^r; the belly and foot to be prised according to their differing more or less from the head musters of nillees, gingham, and hummums are left with you; the romauls you may make a muster out off the parcell come in of each sort, and thereon proceed as on the other musters; there are alsoe a parcell of mullmulls, but they sceme very deare on which acco^t. we carry on piece of them to Hugly, where shall let a prize on them according to their goodness, and order you to take them if y^e merchants shall be willing to part with them at y^e rate you shall judge them worth; what shall after all remaine due from them you are to advise us and demand of them in ready money.

Wee leave you here and order you to act as chief of this factory till further orders from us or y^e Agent and Councell at fort St. George; for your assistance in y^e warehouse we leave Mr. George Peacock; what remaineing there appeares in an acco^t. of particulers we herewith deliver you; and for writeing coppies, &c., leave George Perrin; we allow, *viz.*, to Mr. Richard Edwards 24 Rs. P month, Mr. George Peacock 15 Rs. P month George Perrin 12 Rs. P month Mr. Smith, if remaines here, to have 20 Rs. P month diett, and if Mr. Hall should come downe he is to have 25 Rs. P month for his diett. Although we have here prescribed your allowance for diett, yet we would have you to diett together, or at least we order you that you all diett within y^e ffactory and not abroad at any house in towne. Mr. Edwards his accommodation is ordered, where it is, with the addition of the next roome; Mr. Smith may lodge where he lately did; Mr. Peacock in the fourth roome, Geo. Perrin in y^e third roome from y^e office; Mr. Hall, should he come downe, let be lodged in y^e first roome from y^e office; the next roome to y^e office let be kept alwaies empty for an entertaineing roome of Moores, Dutch, &c., strangers; the studdy and cellar at y^e end of the house let be kept empty for a writeing roome, an accommodation of the chief when he comes hither, the keyes of all the rest of y^e roomes and of the office let remaine in Auldwaids his custody. We earnestly recommend to your keeping good orders in y^e factory; and that there be publick prayers morning and evening; also let there be an exact diary kept, copy bookes of

letters sent and received, and invoice booke, besides your bookes of acco^t. y^e charges generall, till this factory be settled, which expect this shipping at furthest will be done. We order you to keep the warehouse remaines as delivered you, receipt taken for them, the which you are to deliver to Mr. George, Peacock, takeing his receipt for said. What household stuff and stores we have thought fit to leave in this factory as delivered you, of which let an acco^t. be kept for servants in this factory, both within doores and without; as alsoe writers, Herrechurne, y^e house broker, and the Durbar servants, to provide, and their Mirda, chief peon, gwaller to stand in 6 Rs. $\frac{7}{8}$ month, gwaller for y^e pallankeen, a cooke and scullian, a butler, and a cahar, a comprodore and Hollolcore, a chubdar, a tentman and gardiner. Mr. Edward is allowed for his servants 6 Rs. $\frac{7}{8}$ month as chiefe, Mr. Peacock 3 Rs. as warehouse keeper; and within the abovementioned allowances, we order you to keep a watchman or gurraces you may alsoe keep as usual. The new Nabob of Orixia is on his way and is expected in ten daies here whome you must visit and present according to what usuall as $\frac{7}{8}$ a paper of particulers left with you according to the last of which you are to procure another from the Nabob. We have left in cash with you 1,156 Rs. and in seven daies more Chimcham's sonn will pay you Rs. 2,000 more, which is y^e balance of his acco^t on lead sold him. We enorder you to be very frugall in your charges generall precept, &c. What you shall find absolutely necessary to be presented to this Government you may present.

There are twelve bales of nillees *viz.*, 4 belly and 8 foot each qts. 20 p^{ts}., which were prized by Mr. Bugden, but embalced too late, that they could not goe on these ships by which meanes they remaine behind. These you may take at rates as then prized which y^e broker will inform you off, and what will be still remaining due from y^e merchants receive in such goods and at those rates as above directed.

Chimcham's sonn owes on (?) received (he haveing paid you Rs. 1,156) ruprs. 2,000-4. Jurague Shaw on d^o. 2,067-4; and Bicara Shaw rup^s. 1,020-12. This they have all promised to pay in eight or ten daies at furthest, which pray accordingly demand and receive of them adviseing us thereof, that we may take order concerning the disposeall of what cash is more at present necessary for their factories' occations. We call not else to mind but to wish you good success and remain

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

Hugly, 31st January 1677-78.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

The 26th in y^e night Mr. Matt^s Vincent arrived hither two daies agoe. A Mogul sent hither by Sultaun Auzzum came to y^e factory to treat about brass gunns, and desired us to write to Ballasore to see if we could procure some there from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 pounders, concerning which we have inclosed writt to Chimcham to enquire for, as we alsoe enorder you to doe, and to agree on a price and send them up on y^e first sloop bound thence hither, but we limit both you and Chimcham's enquiry to two daies when if not to be got then both he and you write us answer accordingly.

The merchants' broad-cloth shall come downe as soone as our acco^t. of y^e warehouse is settled here, and if they have a mind to buy any goods as broad-cloth, copper, tin, red-lead, white lead, vermillion, quicksilver, &c., let them signify the quantity they will take of each, and it shall be sent downe; but we would willingly they should take of all sorts a proportion, lead and all that, soe we may send of what possible ere y^e next shipping arrives.

The piece of mullmulls belonging to Balasore merchants is not yet looked on to be rated. It shall be done and sent you $\frac{7}{8}$ the next, that soe you may be

receiving said sorts of goods of them, if they prove content with y^e price on acco^t. their remaine. Calling nothing else to mind at present we rest

Your loving friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

Hugly, 1st February 1677-78.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

RESPECTED FRIEND,

Our last to you was dated y^e 4th last month. Yours of y^e 3rd and 15th d^o. month have received y^e former wth y^e five chests ord^d. Taffaties and two tales of raw taff^a. which we are sorry came soe late, for their am^t. shall give your factory credit rup. 7,808 according to your invoice received.

We note y^e manner of y^e new Nabob of Orixia passing by Muxadavad. He drew nigh Ballasore ere we left that place (being the 18th ultimo), and we suppose our new Nabob of Bengal has now been for some daies in Decca, though we do not understand that he mett with the old Nabob, such persons seldome desireing to see one y^e other in the circumstances they are now in. We heare the difference between him and Boolehund is long since accomodated. On these five boates in charge of Anthony Smith your dier and five peons we have sent one bale con^t. 6 p^a. scarlet (haveing no fine green) and some toyes for presents. The scarlet if it be more then you shall have occasion for, part of it may hereafter goe for Pattana. There alsoe comes ten chests of all am^t. as of invoice unto Rs. 86,723-2-4 for which you are to give this factory credit. The warehouse of this factory is now delivering over to Mr. Bugden, which done we shall dispeed what is your proportion of goods as alsoe to Pattana, &c. We would advise you for reasons given in our last to be spareing in giving out money till shall understand how this Nabob will deal with us, our next worke now being to fit up a present for him, and to dispeed Mr. Hervey to Decca to him, and we intend to advise Mr. Charnock, &c., that they send up an able Vaqucel with Nabob Shausteh Caun to Court by whose means we hope to procure a phirmaund to confirm our priviledges in these parts. We call not else to mind at present save that we are

Your very foveing friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

SAM^{LL} HERVY.

Hugly, 9th February 1677-78.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

LOVEING FRIEND, &c.,

We are here given to understand y^t Nabob Shausteh Caun is advanced in his way to Hindoostan as far as Mungeer soe that he will nigh as soone as these be with you in Pattana. We hope long ere this you may have gotten ready an able Vacqueel to be sent to court, and we judge if he goe with this Nabob up and by some small yet handsome present make himselfe by means of it and Roy Nundelol knowne to y^e Nabob as also y^e reason of his proceeding desireing his favour and assistance, that it will not be difficult to procure the King's phirmaund, this being the greatest and most powerfull Umbraw in y^e whole empire, and on acco^t. of our last present made to him

something obliged to favour us in y^e particular ; to this day we doe not heare that any answer has come from y^e King about our paying custome in these parts, soe hope to heare noe more of it from aloft ; 'tis reported for certaine that this Nabob goes up to be Vizier to this King, which if so, we can apply ourselves to none but him, who best knowing us and our present circumstances and being so neer y^e King, can best answer our desires ; we shall be getting things ready for a present to send to you, but we feare till get this new Nabob's perwana nothing will pass to you by Rajamaul ; in such case, this thing must be effected with money, which we leave, recommending it to your prudent manage to be done with all imaginable frugallity ; in two daies more. Mr. Hervy is setting forward with a present to Decca for our new Nabob, to whome we wish good success ; the Prince's Neshawne sent you hence by Mr. Reade we wrote for long since, but have not received it. Pray, if not already done, send it away immediately with all phirwannas, receipts, and Persian papers sent you hence on from Ballasore, for we shall now want them all. We have not else to add save that we are

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

SAM^{ll} HERVY.

Hugly, 11th February 1677-78.

MR. SAM^{ll} HERVY.

SIR,

All things being now got in readiness which we thought convenient for a present to this new Nabob of Bengail, Auzzum Caun, as alsoe severall goods being shipped off with y^e present for sales at Decca, all amounting as ₹ invoice delivered you to 36,532 Rs. 4 As. 2 Ps., the gold alsoe being included ; we desire you alsoe to proceed therewith, and on your first arrivall thither to acquaint yourselfe with y^e best time and way of makeing the present for our Masters' best advantage, according to which you may draw up two Persian letters in the Chief's name, the one to y^e Nabob, y^e other to his Divan, or Chief Minister insisting a modest excuse of our soe long delay by reason of our distance at y^e Bundur, whence, after dispatching of our shipping we could noe sooner arrive hither, &c., as you shall find most proper and requisite on y^e place.

The gold, as alsoe y^e goods for saile, we order you to put off and sell as soone as you can, and from time to time to give us advice thereof, that as soone as the Nabob's perwana is procured, we may give you orders how to dispose of your cash, and to supply you further hence what we can in relation to y^e enordered Investment in Decca factory.

The present for th^e Nabob we think fit to be thus, viz. :—

Fine scarlet	2 ps.
Coarse scarlet	9 p.
Ffine green cloth	1 „
Violet colour cloth	1 „
Sky-coloured cloth	1 „
Broadcloth, ord ^a red	13 ps.
Ditto green	7 „
Lookeing glasses of 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ inche pare	2 „
Ditto in frame, of 29 „ „	1 p.
An English clock.	
An Arabian horse.	

One paire of silk Persan Carpetts of 11 covets long and 4 d^o broad.

One paire of rich embroydered silk Persian Carpetts of 6 covets long and three covets broad.

Crimson Velvet	10 yds.
Green do.	10 „

Silver and Gold lace, and severall rarities, you may give according to your discretion, of which, and of the rest of y^e peices, you are to send us an acco^t. as soone as perfected.

The present for y^e Nabob's Duan or Cheif Minister thus, viz. :—

Fine scarlet	.	.	1 p.
Broadcloth, ord ^a . red	.	.	3 „
Do. Green	.	.	2 „
Lookeing glasses, of 28 inches	.	.	1 „

About twenty or twenty-five yards of y^e silver and gold lace and cloth toies, &c., to him and the severall under-officers as you shall find a necessity to present, of all which as aforesaid you are to give us speedy and punctuall advise. The Arabian horse, being at present somewhat out of case by reason of travaill from Ballasôre, and long and hard voyage on boardship, we shall detain here about twenty daies longer, and then send him forward; however you may put him into y^e noate of particulars you present the Nabob with, and give this reason why he came not along with you; when you present the horse you must agree to pay y^e officer that presents him to y^e Nabob something that he may not (as it is generall if such persons are not prepared) be discommended and disesteemed by the Nabob.

We herewith deliver you copy of y^e Prince, Sha Sujah's Neshau, Nabob Caun Caunna's perwanna, as alsoe Nabob Daud Caun's with Nabob Shausteh Caun's procured in y^e yeare 1669, but there is a better procured in y^e yeare 1672, whose originall we cannot find, supposing (as you must answer at Decca) that the originall of that and the Prince's Neshau and of Shausteh Caun's perwanna are sent to Pattana to y^e present Prince there, from whence if y^e Nabob urges it we will procure them, but if you find that by these coppies of the Prince's Neshau, granted in 1672, our business may be done, you need shew noe other, they being all more strictly written; in y^e drawing out of our new perwanna (which we hope you will gett) by a summe of money of 2 or 3 or 400 Rs. in which we enjoyne you to be frugall yet not soe as to starve the business, in case you find it feassable to y^e officers that pens y^e perwanna, if you can gett those words according to the King's phirmaund changed into these words according to the English use and custome in Bengall it will be of great importance tot the preservation as well as continuance of our Masters' priviledges in these countries, especially if we should be soe unhappy (which God forbid) as not to be able to procure this King's phirmaund for their conformation.

Wee order you to send us weekly advices from Decca and oftener if occasions require it, and monthly your diary and acco^t. of cash apart, alsoe we order you to keep good orders in Decca factory, as prayer morning and evening, &c., as specified in y^e Honble Comp^{rs}. standing directions. Wee call nothing else to mind at present, but to wish you good success and a good voyage to Decca, whither we would have you to proceed with all convenient expedition, and subscribe

Your loving friends,

MAT^{rs} VINCENT

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

In all the promises you are to proceed with y^e advice and concurrence of Mr. Fytch Nedham, he being of Councell with you in Decca. All Persian letters you write in y^e Chief's name pray send us true coppies off.

Y^{dem}

M. V.

E. R.

E. B.

Hugly, 13th February 1677-78.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

Our last to you was dated y^e 9th currant, to w^{ch} refer you. The 11th at night (the same day Mr. Hervy parted hence with a present to^d Decca) came a phirwanna from y^e new Nabob importing that whereas there had lately come a phirmaund from the King to Shausteh Caun, y^e old Nabob, enordering him to receive 2% cent of y^e English, he now gave order to his Amin here to take said custome of us here, and write the same to Ballasore, so that till we can get his perwanna, which we much doubt off, our business is wholly stoped in the place. It does now therefore much concerne us to endeavour to procure a new phirmaund to doe which we doe suppose the way we propounded to you in our last of y^e 9th present may be very good, not questioning but you have a good Vacqueel feady in order thereunto, or if you shall find any better meanes we leave it to your prudence, enjoyning you to leave noe good meanes untied where-by a phirmaund may be gott and our Masters' priviledges here retrieved, without which you as well as we are very sensible there will be noe trading in these parts.

We remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 13th February 1677-78.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS.

LOVEING FRIEND, &c.,

In ours of the 31st last month we promised to look upon the price of mullmulls belonging to Ballasore merchants and prize it, w^{ch} accordingly we have done and returned it you, being rated by us at rups. 5 12 as. 7 p^d. to rups. 6, rather then faile, according to which you may receive of y^e merchants makeing allowance for what is better or worse yⁿ this muster. What shall be wanting to ballance their remaines, you may if they be content receive in this sortment. Last night arrived a perwanna from this new Nabob on the Amin here, and the like is gone forward to your Amin there, ordering till his perwanna comes to y^e contrary that we pay 2 7 p^d cent. custome according to the King's late phirmaund to Shausteh Caun. Mr. Hervy is gone thence wth y^e present y^e 11th currnt., and we wish him success in what he is gone about. We we call not else to mind save that we rest

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 16th February 1677-78.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

RESPECTED FRIEND, &c.,

Our last to you was of y^e 9th and 13th instant. We have now. before us yours of y^e 24th Decr. and 31st ultimo. Good sword Blades are not here procureable, for since ordinary ones are such a drug noe man on our ships brings any at all. All sorts of things for presents, as alsoe paper and a beame and scales we were on fitting, as alsoe proportioning your factory share

of our Masters' goods, but are put by all by this new embarque from y^e Nabob, which yet we hope his perwanna will take off suddenly, and then shall be sending all forwards. Beames and Scales there is none here nor at Ballasore that are worth anything. Six of the eleven receipts you mention to have sent to Mr. Clavell at Ballasore we have found, but as yet cannot light on the remainder, nor some other Persian papers we now shall want. We are glad to heare that you doe not meet with any more stops in y^e petre trade. We hope by y^e sale of the lead, broadcloth, &c., with you that you will be indifferently supplied to continue that investment, yet least you may want for that and the Vacqueel's occasions at Court, we have enordered our friends at Cossumbazar to remit you Rs. 20,000 by exchangeings wh^{ch} we question not, but they will accordingly performe the business of y^e King's phirmaund. We earnestly recommend unto you having bin pressed unto it afresh by a gen^l. received from y^e Agency, dated y^e 11th December received here two daies agoe, the which importing little, we have not sent you copy off, the invoice of rarities carried hence by Mr. Charnock last yeare comes inclosed amo^t. to rups. 122-8 as. for which credit this factory. From Cossumbazar we have ordered them to send you an invoice of y^e broadcloth sent up wth the bullion in August last, it being charged hence to that factory, and from thence to you, and you must accordingly credit Cossumbazar factory for it, and the bullion received, and whatever comes thence to your factory. 'Tis strange newes you write of the Prince's removeall and Mahmood Amy Caun's coming to Bengall. Time is the best expositer of those things, to which we leave it, and remaine

Your assured loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly 16th February 1677-78.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &CA.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 7th curr^t. We have now to answer yours of y^e 16th January w^{ch} came to hand from Ballasore, and of the 7th and 13th instant. The orders for marking your goods comes inclosed which we order you to follow. What goods lies here shall begin to be marked $\frac{c}{1}$ according to this way w^{ch} done shall alter their markes in their invoices received, and advise you that you may alsoe rectifie them there, and follow with said markes as directed in what goods you shall this yeare send us downe, the figure and number upon the severall sorts of goods (chests or bales) proceeds from one to as many as your severall quantities of each shall produce. If you find any great inconveniency in this way of marking advise us that we may alter it, this being done to avoid mistakes in shipping off goods for England.

Mr. Hervy left this place the 11th currant wth a present to y^e new Nabob. We wish him all success. The boates stopped anywhere in these parts must we feare ly still untill we can procure this Nabob's perwanna for free trade, for all our business is embarqued here by order of the said Nabob, received by the new Governour of this place y^e 12th currant. Until we shall shew the King's phirmaund or his perwanna to y^e contrary, or pay 2 $\frac{p}{100}$ cent. custome according to the late phirmaund from y^e King on Shausteh Caun the old Nabob, there can be noe such writing as you mention be given to cleare any boates whatsoever. Y^e copy of y^e perwanna procured in 1672 have sent you to shew unto your Governour. We conceive Shausteh Caun does not proceed soe fast to Hindoostan, but that our Vacqueel may overtake him from Pattana ere he reaches Dilly, and we have given order to Pattana much of the same nature as you propound by meanes of Shausteh Caun.

We approve of your agreeing for y^e raw silke and have returned your muster w^{ch} are all of them excellent silkes. Y^e second sort is very good, of w^{ch} you may buy what you have occasion for, there being enough of that sort to be had.

Wee are glad the treasure, &c., arrived with you in safety. More goods we shall not, as above noted, be able to send you any untill we obtaine this Nabob's perwanna, soe desire you to endeavour y^e sale of what you have by you. Copper plates are alwaies accounted worse by rups. 2 in a maund yⁿ Jappan copper. Pray sell y^e plates for y^e best price you can get. We admire the barrell of tin proves so unrequestable with you. It was formerly a great commodity and chosen before any other sort in that place. We have sent some to Decca and if on receiving the Nabob's perwanna we find it vends there shall order it thither.

Wee suppose ere this you have disposed off y^e ten chests treasure lately sent up to you, and doe order you as soon as possible to remit rups. 20,000 by bill exchange to Pattana for supply of that factory, both as to stock and for procuring the King's phirmaund. If y^e—should not be sold, we question not but you may immediately procure bills for y^e said summe on your delivering its amo^t. to y^e merchants in Rs. 8-8.

Two or three daies agoe there went up 67 small timbers for (Coon) cost at Ballasore 16 Rs. 12 As. their charges hence 21 Rs. 2 As. Their charges from Ballasore hither is included in what sent you y^e 9th currant hence, soe that fifty great timbers and 130 small ditto amo^t. with charges to 242 Rs. 10 As. for which pray give this factory credit.

The broadcloth that was sent up to Pattana (together wth y^e treasure on y^e 29th August last) was not invoiced. Pray draw out an invoice of it at 13 l. 10 s. y^e cloth entring it soe in your own books, and at Pattana they may do y^e same, soe that blanks may be filled in each, and if any error be we shall rectifie it as soon as can come to find it out, intending to make it one of our greatest businesses to doe what we can to y^e reconciling all differences in acco^t in all y^e factories of Bengall. We call not else to mind at present.

Remaine
Your very loving friends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly y^e 1st February 1677-78.

Mr. SAM^l HERVY, &c.

Wee with these may take you safely arrived in Decca and serve onely for advice that y^e old Congoe Ramgibbon Ray's son, Narraine Ray, goes this day by order of Auzzum Caun to Decca and carries with him this port's records. For twenty or thirty yeares past he was with us and desired us to write to you to show him what civility shall ly in our way. We have obliged him in case you shall find any good may be done thereby to tell y^e Nabob, if asked, what our Masters' priviledges have been in these parts ever since we have traded hither, and you, as you s^ee occation, may put him upon it by James Price, or how you shall thinke fitting, alsoe, you may, if you find it may be useful, tell y^e Nabob the reason of our coming to this sickly countrey as being invited from our port of Amongon about 45 yeares agoe to protect y^e port of Ballasore against y^e Deanes who them robbed all ships there, and that we came on condition of having the same priviledges as had and have at Metchlep^m that is, custome free, &c. that he may order his Amin in Ballasore to enquire of y^e Zemadars, Ancient Merchants, &c., inhabitants of Ballasore, the truth of this, &c. of this nature as you may find requisite, and with all you may note that we came into Bengall before y^e Dutch did, and therefore had more favour shown us which continued under y^e Prince Sha Shujah, Chan Chaun, Daud Caun, Shausteh Caun, and hope will not be discontinued by him. We have bin all stopped ever since the 12th currant, and soe are like to continue till a phirwanna be procured from this Nabob, which pray hasten what you can.

Wee have written to Mr. Charnock three times earnestly pressing him to try all things possible to procure this King's phirwanna, and propounded to him

the sending a Vacquel who should principally apply himselfe Shausteh Caun by y^e Ray, by whose means we hope to obtain our ends, and we have hinted in our Particular that if a downright bargaine can be driven with y^e Ray, on delivery of an authentick phirmaund to pay him a certain summe for his and his Master's use; that it be done out of hand in y^e letter to James Price, there is copy of Auzzum Caun's son's Pwanna for Orixia, w^{ch}, if see requisite, you may likewise produce. We expect to hear from you as soon as you shall perceive how affaires with you are like to goe.

We remain

Your loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Trugly, 13th March 1677-78.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

LOVING FRIENDS.

Our last to you was dated y^e 16th ultimo, since which we have received yours of y^e 24th February, wherein note what time Shaushteh Caun arrived into Pattana and departed thence towards Dilly, and wish a Vaqueel had been ready to have proceeded with his luskur in reference to our present designe of procureing the Emperor's Pmaund. About which we admire you should thinke we are noe more in earnest but that if we find rubbs in its procury we would give off. The Hon^{ble} Company and Agent and Councell's orders are possitive in it, and in reference to them ours have been soe to you, and coppies of their letters in said concerne have been duly transmitted you, whereupon we hoped noe doubt as you seeme to entertaine could have insued, but since you doe scruple we hereby assure you that our resolutions are firme to endeavour to our utmost to procure a Pmaund, and we order you vigorously to proceed in it accordingly. All y^e favour we can hope from this is to let us enjoy our priviledges as formerly till he write to y^e Emperor and have his answer about us, w^{ch} what it may prove except we endeavour to make it sure ourselves we are much doubtfull in, wherefore account it it y^e securest way to begin (now there are sufficient orders) at y^e root and lay such a foundation as, God willing, may not suddenly be shaken or discomposed; we are getting things ready for presents as you desire, and if they be not stopped at Rajamaul we shall get them we hope (notwithstanding all our trade is at P sent embarqued in this port) free out of this place. However, we would not have you delay sending the Vacquel to Court that he may be there to strike while y^e iron is hott. Shausteh Caun being likely to be in most favour at his first coming and thereby best able to bring our business to pass; he is an old man alsoe, and may dye, &c. Our ships alsoe may be expected in July, and it is absolutely necessary that this business be cleared if possible by that time one way or others. This thing being of soe great weight (as in yours you will observe) we are y^e more earnest in it that no time be lost, what things we send for presents may be transmitted up after the Vacquel to Dilly. We have noe certaine notice what the Dutch have done at Dilly, but there is a report there that they have gott a hushbull hookum from y^e King to call M. Cassum (who now is in great disgrace at Decca) to acco^t for making them soe unjustly pay so great a summe of money on y^e death of their broker's wife; and their Vacquel is gone to Decca as 'tis said by some about that; but we are rather inclined to believe that 'tis only about 36,000 rups which was their broker's debt to y^e said Governor for rents of townes by him held w^{ch} Directore Ra'st paid on Mellick Qossums keeping y^e Dutch second prisoner at his house, which now is alleaged to be a force used on them contrary to their priviledges.

Wee are of opinion that Shausteh Caun may have y^e name and honour of the Visier at least at his first coming to Court, though another for soe long a time as y^e King sees good may be subsitute to undergoe the trouble as you

mention. We wish by his, or any other good means, we had a phirwanna wth, notwithstanding the present unsettled ones of this Court, would fix our Masters' affaires; and should this King dye ever so soone after. it would be noe great expence on sight of his P^rmanud to get one of y^e same tenour of his successor.

Sha Shujah's Neshawn and y^e receipt of rup^s. 3,000 paid in Hugly we have received, and are now sending the former to Decca, whence, as soone as they have done with it, and we can have it, shall returne it you againe if you shall find a want of it, which pray advise us, though we are of opinion that one better worded might be drawn out, P^rticularly where there is mentioned according to the King's phirmaund it might be altered and made according to y^e English use and custome in these parts. This wee recommend to you, ordering, if it may be done, that you would get it effected.

The newes of Bahadour Caun and Buctaur Caun^s is strange; this King if lives much longer will see the graves of all his old Umbraws and of his sonn's too, if they have not a care; by Sultaun Mozzum feare to appeare before his father in Dilly, may be seen that y^e old man keeps still y^e reines in his own hands.

Wee are glad you have got back your mochelkie againe, and hope in due time you will alsoe receive back y^e deposited money; and when this is backed with y^e King's phirmaund which God graunt, our Masters' business will be better settled in his country then ever, your care and endeavours about which we do not question.

A beame we have sent you as alsoe paper and quills wth y^e severalls for presents P^r two doolies. The Surra^t bookes copy comes by this cossid, we disire you to get them coppied againe and returne us these having noe other in this factory, and want assistance to get them coppied over, else you had received them sooner. The invoice of y^e Broadcloth is ordered you from Cossumbazar or whence it came to you, that of y^e toyes is sent, sword blades we have none good here; such as we can procure shall come to you, a paire of rich horse pistolls, with foure charges each, have sent you; if you have occation for a paire of ordinary ones, we can also furnish you; what other rarities we have in y^e factory we have sent you some of each; there came but foure beames out of England y^e yeare, one whereof is at Cossumbazar, another at Decca, the third is sent as above said to you, and the last is kept here, it being exceedingly wanted. As soone as receive any more, we shall not faile to send them, in the meanetime for draughts of two m^{ds} some shift may be made, what this beame cannot possibly effect some other way.

Wee had almost forgot to put you in mind that if a phirmaund may be procured by driveing a downright bargaine wth Shausteh Caun, or any other powerfull Umbraw aloft, it would be a very good way, and there would be no more trouble but to receive y^e paper and pay according to contract.

The invoice of petre you sent down this yeare, as alsoe your diary and acco^t of cash monthly, we have not received, but shall expect. We call not else at present, but to wish you good success in y^e promises and to subscribe

Your very loyng friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDWⁿ READE.

EDMⁿ BUGDEN.

Hugly, 16th March 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY.

SIR,

Our last to you was dated y^e 6th currant wth y^e Arab horse which we hope will arrive in due time wth you. Ere that went we had received a generall from Mr. Nedham, &c., of y^e 24th of last month wth we then delayed to answer till should have an oportunity which by receipt of yours of y^e 6th currant we attained.

We admire y^e order for our stop here arriving y^e 11th last month at night (the news of it three or four daies before) that at Decca you should not heare of it till y^e 23rd following. This is a great fault in your Vacqucel which you much endeavour by all means to get mended, we being to take our aimes from your timely advices in all things relating to us from that Durbar.

It much troubles us to find your had reception by the Nabob and that he should so forceably take y^e present sent him without cleareing y^e goods or so much as sceing you. We hope by your seasonable application to Hodgee Zoffee Caun you may yet come to better termes, what letters to be written to him, or y^e Nabob, or any emergent occation which will not so well brooke delay you have sufficient orders in the paper of instructions which Mr. Hervy carried hence.

We approve of those three propositions you intend to make to y^e Nabob as to y^e matter of customes, but order you never to yeild to the last until you certainly see that neither the first nor second can be made feisable.

We have written effectually to Mr. Charnock to endeavour to procure a phirmaund for our trade in these parts, custome free if possible, and are sending severalls for presents by dooly to Pattana if can by any means get them cleare of this port where all our business is stopped, and what ever comes in we open (but within our owne walls) ere we can house it.

The Prince's Neshaun we have sent you, least you may want it. Pray return it as soon as you have done with it, which pray finish as soone as you can, as they shall have occation for it at Pattana where they desire have it sent to them again, in relation to our Masters' business there.

The phirmaund, which God graunt, be given us custome free then there will be noe occation for mentioning anything further, but if to pay custome it will questionless run as our Surrat P^rmaund where repay all at Surratt and not within land, but we shall write to Pattana that the Vaquel thence be instructed in this particular also.

The 13th curreant the *Lilly* arrived hither wth a generall from the flort whence y^e English ships were dispatched y^e 27th and 28th January in very good time. God send them well home.

Wee call not else to mind but earnestly to press you to use your utmost endeavours for procury of y^e Nabob's P^rwanna till a P^r maund can be gotten by which means we may be able to trade, all lying now stopped, and we not esteeming it safe to give it out to merchant, or we aver till see how this affaire will be determind. We salute you kindly and rest

Your loving friends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

P.S.—You must be sure if y^e P^rwanna you gett of this Nabob according to either the second or third proposition you advise us, that you intend to make to him, concerning wh^{ch} we enjoyne you to follow our forgoeing order that you gett therein very plainly expressed that the Government at y^e Bundur takes our own entries as he does of the Dutch both for goods imported and exported, and that without opening, weighing, or tolling our goods he be ordered to make up his acco^t, else it will be next an impossibility for us to dispatch any business, the crossness of a Governor, if not piscashed to his mind, being at all times, but especally at y^e time of y^e monsoone, able to hinder and delay us soe long as may quite overthrow our trade and occasion our ships to goe hence empty, redress of such complaints coming very slowly and lamely too. Many inconveniences will accrew if y^e priviledges at y^e worst cannot be attained, and therefore must be contented for accordingly; alsoe you must get incerted that we are to give a talika or entry of our goods or deposite money ullull? hesob? for them in reference to custome in noe place but onely y^e Bundur, else we shall meet with troubles in all inland factories and places where we either buy or sell.

Y^dem

MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 28th March 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

LOVING FRIEND, &c.

Our last to you was dated y^e 13th currant since which day we have severall times endeavoured to gett sev^l for present out of this place to you but have proved unsuccessfull, nor could prevaile with our Governor here to lett anything pass unless would open all and let a broker make price that soe y^e acc^t. of custome might be made up y^e w^{ch} we thought not convenient to agree to and soe y^e lev^{ts}. ly stopped in this place.

Enclosed have sent you two letters lately received from Decca whereby you will p^{er}ceive in what a bad posture our Masters' priviledges are there, and if remedy be not suddenly sought and applyed, like to spread thence all over these parts, and therefore we againe in y^e Hon^{ble} Comp^{ys} name press and strictly enorder you to endeavour the procury of a phirmaund with all y^e expedition y^e nature of y^e affaire will beare. Y^e Vacqueel we hope is long since gone to Dilly that he may be there as soone as Shausteh Caun. We desire your orders to him may be plaine and possitive, by which we hope in due time a phirmaund may be gott from the King, which is y^e onely remedy now left us for our present troubles. As soon as we can gett our things for presents cleare we shall send them to you. In y^e meane time you must make as good shifts as you can. Having not else to add we remaine.

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 28th March 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 16th currant, wherein answered yours of y^e 6th currant and gave what orders then found necessary in y^e p^{re}sent exigency of our Masters' affaires with you: have now received yours of y^e 16th.

Wee have pressed Mr. Charnock very much earnestly to endeavour the procury of y^e King's phirmaund without which we have told him that our Masters' priviledges in these parts will never be settled, and we this day intend to write to him againe to y^e same effect, and to send him copies of your last and this generall that he may judge in what predicament we stand, and endeavour a remedy accordingly. Money we have remitted and things for presents we have prepared, but we cannot get them cleare of this place nor unlade our sloopes, the goods being kept there on the Governor's here demanding custome of all according to his masters phirwanna sent him; which arrived here y^e 12th of last month. Till we can shew another p^{er}wanna to y^e contrary, which we had hopes we might had done, or had an answer by this time, but since notwithstanding all your endcavours you could not prevaile for one, we must acquiece till you can gett a p^{er}wanna or we a phirmaund from y^e King, the which we have pressed Mr. Charnock, &c., to gett. Effected soe we cannot but earnestly recommend to you to try all good waies to gett a new phirwanna of this Nabob, that our Masters' business may not lie imbarqued as now it does, and you be sure to take care in y^e pering of it that our engagement to pay custome (in case we cannot procure the King's p^{er}maund for our former priviledges) be restrained to Hugly and Ballasore, or if you can to Hugly only, else we shall be certainly troubled in all inland places whence we fetch our goods, and there will be continuall stopps on boates passing with goods between factory and factory.

As soon as y^e hurry of your trouble shall be over, we expect coppies of all papers you give to officers in Govern^{mt}, the which the more you can decline

with any convenience the better though what y^e necessity of the Hon^{ble} Companies affaires drive you into, we approve off, and among them the paper you gave about the custome as such. You did very well in not letting the boates be emptied and goods opened and weighed, &c., for when our own entries will not pass for what goods we import or export (specially if we come to pay custome) we shall never be able to drive a trade in those countries.

Wee are very sorry for the difference arisen between y^e Nabob and the King's Duan, whereby as you hint our broadcloth lies still at the custome house, the Nabob having turned out all y^e King's Duan's officers there and placed of his own, soe that you have new ones to deall withall. We feare alsoe this will cause a delay in y^e procure of the Nabob's phirwana which is of bad consequence to our Masters' trade which lies stopped till that be attained. Concerning the present appointed for the Nabob's Duan, we leave it to you to dispose off, soe as may be most for our Masters' advantage yet caution you to see that you doe not absolutely disoblige him neither, except it will be noe harme to our Masters' affaires there.

If you find a necessity for the reasons you mention to build a small bungaloh at Kidderpore there to waite on y^e Nabob and lie at night in, the journey being to great to goe and come in one day, we give you licence to doe it but with all frugallity that can be.

Wee wish you had framed and sent a letter sooner to the Nabob as if it had come with the present it could we suppose have done noe hurt notwithstanding the Nabob's rapacious way of seizing on y^e present itselfe. We wish the letter you intended since may produce y^e wished effects, if nothing be to be done with y^e Nabob; or if he doe prove favorable, in both cases you must keep in with y^e King's Duan whose writeing to y^e King may doe us good or harme as he is inclined, and possibly may helpe to bring our business about that way. We must leave it to your cautious and prudentiall management soe to act in all exigencies of our Masters' present business as may be most according to your best judgements for its well proceeding of w^{ch} shall not want approveall from us.

Rammissur Ray, the Cangoe of this port, is summoned with all the Zemindars of these parts to Decca, and accordingly proceeded hence thitherward. Some daies agoe he was with us a little before he went and desired (though he is a man needs noe money) if he should have occasion that we would write to you to let him have some there which we order you accordingly to let him have not exceeding but as much under as you can y^e summe of rup^s. 1,000 and that you shew him civility. The summe you lend him pray take a bill of exchange for charged on his brother Bassadeelle Ray here, and payable at five or ten daies sight which if he insists on may be a month. You may tell him we will stay soe long after accepted ere demand it but desire it may run for noe longer time then ten daies as aforesaid. We call not else to mind save that we are

Your loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, March 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &CA.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Accordingly to our last of y^e 13th currant we have sent you forward two doolies with fine cloth rarities, &c., amo^t. as ^{an} invoice inclosed to rup^s. 1,603-5-3 for w^{ch} pray give this factory accompt currant credit. They had come sooner but were hindered by our Governor, our whole trade lying under a stop, and little or nothing to be hoped for from Decca, the Nabob there haveing forced our piscash out of our boats ere handed, therefore hope on receipt of our last you immediately dispeeded the Vaqueel to Dilly, and that these ^{particulars}

will follow him time enough. Nothing but a phirmaund can now, for ought we see, secure our Masters' priviledges of this we shall write you more freely when we heare againe from Decca. In the interim desire and order you not to be slack in endeavouring y^e procury of a phirmaund, both we and you having had plaine and sufficient order about it.

We remaine
Your loving friends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.
EDW^d LITTLETON.

P.S.—Aprill 1st. This was ready long since to have with the doolies of rarities, &c., but till this day could not get them cleare and then were forced to acquaint the Governour that there were things on y^e doolies for to present y^e Prince, and it was accordingly inserted in the dustuck. Two beames we have now sent you, scales you may make there

Y^{dem}

M. V.
E. R.
E. B.
E. L.

Hugly, 7th April 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

SIR,

Our last to you was dated y^e 2nd curreant, since which we have received yours of y^e 30th ultimo. We are sorry you have not been able through your merchants' troubles there to make an end with them and finish their accompts. If a Pwanna comes for our paying custome at Ballasore it will be to little purpose; that Nabob Shausteh Cawn's Pwanna on Mellick Cassum be sent. He is now in great disgrace at Decca, all the whole country being by the Nabob warned in against him. How he will come off we cannot tell. When your Governor shews a Pwanna demanding on acco^t. as you write, it will then be time to answer. In y^e meantime put him off wth belitting and delaytory answers, we hoping in few daies to procure a Pwanna from Decca, and afterwards, God willing, a phirmaund from Dilly. We are glad Jerauz has paid part of y^e money owing on P^t and hope ere this y^e remainder is recovered. Y^e light money what will not pass here in ordinary expences must be returned you but hope to make a shift wth it.

The Prince's Droga here has sent us word that he has procured four brass gunns more at Ballasore. If any one delivers any to you pray receive them, and send them hither at the first opportunity.

The piece of gingham Heirasan delivered M. at his coming from Ballasore and has been adjudged at 3 R 4 A or rups. 65 P^t corge, and accordingly you may acquaint y^e merchant. The piece is not send downe by land in respect of our present stop, but at soon as y^e way is open it shall be sent you. We call not else to mind save that we are

Your loving friends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.
EDW^d LITTLETON.

Hugly, 22nd April 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

SIR,

Our last to you was dated y^e 7th curreant, since w^{ch} we have received yours of y^e 10th ditto. Y^e 22 iron gunns if you meet an oportunity send them up, as alsoe y^e 6 others, otherwise they must remaine till some vessels goes hence. The Prince's Droga is now returning with what gunns he could get here to Pattana.

Wee wish your merchants' troubles were over both in respects of making an end of their depending acco^t. which we hope they may find an oportunity to doe and you must press them to, this month being the enordered time of shutting up this yeare's acco^t., as alsoe to come upon some agreement for goods for our expected shipping; the gingham's lying here can hinder noe agreement with Heirasan if he will give that sort in at y^e rate as we last advised you, for ready money; that is, halfe nuggured and halfe goods at a ready money rate, for we must alwaies engage y^e merchants there to take off goods as usuall only with this difference to give noe more yⁿ market price.

The bill you drew on Soonderdas, &c., we have received, gott accepted, and ducly paid for w^{ch} shall give Ballasore factory credit. You may goe in hand to provide wax, &c., packing materialls, it being now the cheapest time for y^e goods intended, God willing, for England this shipping, alsoe get things ready for repaireing the Bancksaul* at y^e point of sand, but lett y^e gusty weather be over ere you begin least you have it to doe twice. In this and all other matters of expence pray be as frugall as possible you can. We note what you write concerning y^e carpenters here, which you sent up and shall account with them accordingly. As soone as any vessell goes hence we shall send you downe some inck out of our stores here, which are but small of that sort. Your diary and cash acco^t we have received; it will then be time to fitt up y^e pinnace, advice when our Europe ships shall arrive, and not before: in y^e meanetime if she remaine in y^e dock it can doe her little harme being a very unprofitable uselesse vessell.

Wee want planck timbers, spikes, &c., for our sloopes repirs here and find all to come out very deare in this place, all w^{ch} we understand are to be had at moderate rates with you, giving out money on them at this time, which therefore we order you to doe according to y^e list enclosed, which recommend to your observance, and that you give out money to secure p^{er}sons.

There is nothing done in our phirwanna at Decca, the Nabob haveing been for some time sick and not appeared in publike, but we daily expect advices with good knews thence. Haveing not else to add we rest

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT,

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN,

Hugly, 1st May 1678.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

LOVING^t FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 1st ultimo, since which we have received yours of y^e 16th and 28th d^o. We are glad by the former to understand that Mr. Charnock, &c., had received rups. 20,000 remitted them from you, though from Mr. Charnock we have noe advise of it, suppose through forgettfullness. We take notiee of y^e safe arrival of Mr. Edward Littleton and y^e most of y^e tanneex or raw silk you had given out in Novemb^r bund was come in. We cannot expect it haveing been very hott and dry for some months that March bund can be comparably good or great as it alwaies is when seasonable showers falls as usually they doe but have this yeare failed, yet there not being

* Banksaul, properly Bankshall—A warehouse; the office of a Harbour Master or other Port Authority.—*Glossary Anglo-Indian terms*—Yule—Burnell.

any likelyhood of many byers we have, you will be able to gett in y^e greater quantity, the bund of July allwaies falling out as you well know course and il coloured.

Wee very well approve of your delaying to give out money to your weavers till you can enquire into y^e nature of their severall losses by the late great fire (which we are sorry for) after which it will be convenient for y^e first to give out money somewt sparcingly, by the weavers complying with which you will y^e better p^rceive whome you may trust and whome not. Y^e copie of the consultation, that clause respecting your factory investments, we have enclose sent you attested.

Wee are very glad y^e doolies with severalls for presents are passed Rajamaul, and hope they may come in good time to proceed with y^e Vakeel. Mr. Charnock, &c., advise they have provided to goe to Dilly in persuance of y^e King's phirmaund. To this day we have noc advice from Decca of a p^rwanna nothing be concluded for us there one way or other, soe that we have not yett been able to advise to y^e coast.

If you find a necessity you may present Ffazoola Begue with what is convenient, &c., officers under him, useing all that frugallity which y^e nature of y^e thing will beare.

Pray send us the p^rticulars and amo^t of charges merchandize of y^e treasure 14 chests, we sent you hence y^e 30th August last w^{ch} arrived y^e 3rd or 4th September thither.

Yours of y^e 2nd and 8th last month, requiring little of answer, we say y^e less unto onely to mention their receipt.

Invoices of y^e severalls carried up hence by Mr. Littleton comes inclosed amo^t. to rups. 225, which give this factory credit for. We call not else to mind at p^rsent. Rest

Your very loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT..

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 1st May 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK.

LOVING FRIEND, &c.

Our last to you was dated the 1st last month. We have by us your severalls of y^e 7th and 18th March, as alsoe of y^e 6th ultimo. We are glad you received the bills for 20,000 rups. remitted you from Cossumbazar. We have since had knows thence that you have received y^e money, alsoe that you have brought y^e broadcloth sent you up in August last to acco^t. at 48 rups. p^r p^{ie}. which is very well, since if there be need we can hereafter as soone as we are got for-ward here reconcile all differences abroad.

Wee are glad you have procured an able Vacqeel, and that he will be ready to depart suddenly. Our sev^{ls} for present, &c, we heare gott cleare at Rajamaul long since, and hope may have arrived timely enough to proceed with your Vacqeel, ye management of whom we leave and recommend to your prudence.

The Dutch here report they have an order for repaymt of y^e rups 190,000 paid on their banians wife's death, and y^e Mellick Cassum has agreed to repay 36,000, his share of it, but these seeme to be reports and will then be confirmed when they receive y^e money.

Wee have had a report here lately which recommend to be inculcated at Dilly by y^e Vacqeel as he shall see occasion, and it is concerning y^e ground or reason of our being custome free in all India but Surratt, and 'tis this Shaw Jehawne, when he was Prince or Sultaun Curroome, passed severall fortunes or encounters with his fathers and brothers ere he came to y^e crowne, which he gott at last, and haveing once met with an overthrow he fled and in his way called in at Surrat, where he borrowed 300,000 rups. of y^e English President, whereby paying somewhat to his souldiers, he recruited his broken army and in y^e next encounter was victorious and suddenly after his father dying he

made himselfe Emperour, and after some time remembering his debt to y^e English by his ministers proffered its payment which y^e President refused, onely desiring that what they traded for all over his dominions they should not be troubled for nor pay custome, and that they may pay custome onely in Surrat, that so much money was lent Shaw Jehawne Mr. Bugden affirms he has heard Mr. Bearblock affirme, however, if this story may stand in any stead aloft, it may accordingly be used, otherwise let alone.

Your acco^t of cash to y^e end February last we have received and y^e invoice of petre which for y^e future we desire may come with ye petre boates ghesing at y^e neat cost and charging soe much $\frac{1}{2}$ cent on it as it may cost with all its charges, which after may be rectified by an entry at making up your bookes as we doe in all factories here below.

Wee are much of your opinion that if y^e King lives, your Prince will suddenly leave Bengall. It would doe well if ere he comes you could procure his neshawne so worded as you mention and we formerly advised you. Calling not else to mind remaine

Your very loving friends,

MATT^S VINCENT.

EDW^D READE.

EDM^D BUGDEN.

Hugly, 18th May 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 16th with our packett for y^e Coast which we hope you dispeeded away according to our desire. Yours of y^e 9th present came since to hand, wherein find y^e merchants of Ballasore promised (though their troubles doe still continue) to come and shew their goods and make up their acco^{ts} soe as that they may be entred in your bookes, which must end y^e first last month, and doe lie open, till we can send them downe $\frac{1}{2}$ fect to y^e end December last, which will shortly be effected, and then these merchants' acco^{ts} can be entred together with what goods you shall now receive from them. Cullean Ray hath lately sent y^e Chief his acco^t., but we find it to be onely his acco^t. of 1676 without reference to his remaine of 1675; soe we have drawne out his acco^t and sent you together with y^e particulars of goods, &c., received from him. This, we would have you call him, and together with Herry Churne, get adjusted and advise us. Y^e said Cullean Ray alsoe sent a bill of debt of Mr. Walter Clavell, deceased, for 5,400 rups. desiring the amount may be brought to his cred^t in the Companies bookes, which you may tell him shall be done as soon as we have your answer in this acco^t. now sent. The remaining due to ballance pray receive there, and this debt being now of long standing pray let it come into your bookes for 1677 with the rest of the merchants' acco^t. as above said.

The goods to be provided against next shipping in ballas, according to our Masters' last advices there about of Xber 1676 are gingham, 10,000 ps.; Nillics, 10,000, Hummums, 2,000; and you may advise them to goe in hand wth. Romauls 5 or 6,000 peices of Casharree. The musters you have all with you, and you must agree at a ready-money rate which you may better understand there then we at this distance; but you must alwaies remember and observe to your merchants y^t they must take halfe money and halfe goods at market price.

Wee received news from Decca by a letter from our old Cangoe here that the Nabob had given us Seerparees and ordered a $\frac{1}{2}$ wanna to be written, soe expect to have it suddenly, it lying, as we suppose, in y^e new and hungry Mutsuddies' hands till they can be agreed with for their fees; your acc^{ts} of cash, and diary for month of Aprill we have received. You must take care to get your intire diary from y^e time we left you coppied out into double coppies in two bookes to be sent to y^e ffort and England, besides this which you monthly are to send hither. We note y^e difference you have had with y^e Dutch, and

suppose their pragmaticall Chief there will have noe orders hence to use any force concerning our ground. If they doe, you must act according to y^e present exigent, and as prudent consideration of our Masters' interest shall dictate to you, advising us of all that passes. With kind salutes we rest

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 18th May 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Since our last of y^e 1st April and 1st curreant we have received some time agoe yours of y^e 18th April. We heartily wish this Decca Nabob may not be long lived in his government in these parts, being a most rapatjous, covetous man as may be seen in his forcing our present out of our boates, and after shewing us noe manner of favour for it, nor does he tyrannize over us onely but over y^e whole country, whose Zimmendars, Cangoes, &c., offices have been summoned up to him and still remaine, some in irons, all nuzzurbund * in Decca. He is onely favorable to y^e Dutch, who gave him present of rups. 20,000, and promised him more when their ships arrive, and they by Gungaram, y^e treacherous lying villian, doe as much hurt at Decca, having by their stories informed y^e Nabob of y^e whole state of our business and soe exasperated him against us y^t we have noe hopes of obtaining his P^rwanna. On what terms we stand with him you will P^rceive by y^e enclosed copies of a Decca gen^l received three daies agoe, to w^{ch} desire you to be referred, as alsoe to y^e Persian papers w^{ch} if Mr. Hervy, &c., had soe managed y^e business as y^t it had been avoided giving such we think it had been very good. Our whole hope now is in y^e P^rmaund which there is now an absolute necessity for without w^{ch} there will be noe staying for us in this country; and it behoves us y^t we gett it as soone as possible for our whole investments will henceforth lye still untill either y^e Nabob will prove more favourable of w^{ch} there is little signe, or this P^rmaund comes to give us countenance; againe y^e Vacqueel we question not you have instructed to y^e penning y^e P^rmaund, though it may cost extraordinary, there lying much stress in it and all future graunts of y^e like sort, w^{ch} we must have from every successive Emperor, will run in y^e same words. Pray let noe care forecast nor dilligence be wanting in this concerne of soe great importance of w^{ch} hangs y^e whole trade of Bengall. We shall not urge any further, hoping y^e things sent hence for presents, &c., arrived wth you in good time. Rest

Your very loveing friends,.

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 28th May 1678.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Wee have received yours of y^e 22nd curreant wherein note what you write of Anthony Smith's necessaries, &c., and desire if you can conveniently to sell all his things there, or lett them lye a little longer without sending where know not but y^t they may be stopped by y^e chowkie, and give us unnecessary troubles here.

* Nuzzurbund, correctly Nasr-band—H. Kept in view, or under surveillance, a prisoner at large.—Wilson's *Glossary of Indian Terms*.

Lett all y^e hast that can be made to gett y^e Seerpore and all other silk into the house, least a stop should come on all our business inland, as well as at y^e port wth we have great reason to feare, and as you may alsoe see copy of a letter lately received from Decca w^{ch} with y^e Pattana gen^l immediately dis-
 pceeded away to Pattana, on w^{ch} acco^t alsoe, as well as in respect to what you write Mahmood Moraud or Lall Beague, we order you to withhold your invest-
 ments till we can see through this clause w^{ch} threatens such a storme and be
 getting in all goods on w^{ch} you have given out money as fast as possible you
 can. We know not what further to add, being full of trouble on haveing soe bad
 news from Decca, but as we shall come to know how things proceed there you
 shall from time to time have advise for your Government.

From

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 22nd May 1678.

MR. SAM^l. HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was of y^e 3rd currant, since w^{ch} after long expecta-
 tion (it being 29 daies are we heard from you) we received yours of y^e 18th ^{present}
 wherein we are very sorry to read y^e exceeding bad posture of our Masters' affaires
 wth you ^{particular} y^e you are out of hopes of a ^{part}wanna from this Nabob. We
 wish after you received y^e seerpaws* you had applyed yourselves to y^e procury of
 that whole, y^e w^{ch} must have proceeded from y^e Nabob onely, instead of getting
 y^e broadcloth into your possession, whereby you fell into y^e hands of an
 eunuch whose enmity somehow or another is procured to us; if the Nabob had
 denied his ^{part}wanna (on giving a mochelkeet) it had been then time to have
 sought to cleared y^e broadcloth; y^e terms of y^e mochelkee on w^{ch} are very
 hard, and we desire as before advised you y^e you very cautiously commence or
 proceed in such matters as may engage you to give such papers. Wee herewith
 send you two letters, y^e one for this Nabob y^e other for his Duan wherein we
 have said what w^e can as ^{part} y^e copies accompanying the chief agreement we
 urge for y^e ^{part}wanna is, y^e if on our not producing a ^{part}maund, y^e Nabob ex-
 pects we pay custome it must arise from goods bought or sold or carried out of
 y^e country. Now for want of his ^{part}wanna we can neither buy nor sell and at
 y^e time of y^e moonsoone shall not have any goods to pay custome on, but if he
 will give a ^{part}wanna y^e we trade as usuall, onely not to send to see either from
 Hugly or Ballasore till his further pleasure shall ***; and yet for what goods we
 import into y^e country we give an acco^t. of talika† of quantie or qualities, we
 there can buy goods with, will be all at Hugly or Ballasore to pay **** or not
 according to y^e King's ^{part}maund, and of. y^e Europe goods we import we may
 pay or not as aforesaid according to our talika given. Pray urge this and what-
 ever alsoe in y^e letters as you may find requisite and leave not off urging for
 a ^{part}wanna upon small hopes of obteyning it, but still try w^{ch} may divert y^e
 Nabob from other courses of worse consequence to us then he has hitherto
 used, and to which he will not from y^e Dutch side want a remembrancer. What
 Gungaram their Vacqueel has done both in de Sortos business and in this will
 appeare to y^e Agent and Councell by a copie of yours which we now send to

* Seerpaws, correctly Saropa, corruptly Serpas, Serpaw—H. (literally hand and foot). A complete dress of honour.—
Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.

† Mochelkeet, correctly Muchalka, or Muchalká, Moochulka, or Muchchilika incorrectly Moochilka. A written
 obligation or agreement, a bond, a deed: it is commonly applied to a counterpart covenant on the part of proprietors or
 cultivators of land, agreeing to the rates of assessment imposed by the Government; also to an engagement under a
 penalty to observe the conditions of any deed or grant, or to one exacted from thievers or suspected persons engaging to
 desist or refrain from any illegal acts; or to one from superior police and other officers engaging to be responsible for
 the conduct of the subordinates appointed by themselves, or to any penal recognisance which may be required by a
 Magistrate.—*Ibid.*

Muchalka in—darád, H. (from the P. in dárád, contains this). A phrase applicable to any agreement, signifying
 the "the covenant contains this," but said to have been especially applied to a document taken by the Amils or pro-
 vincial collectors from the Desmukhs, or Despándyas, stating that the collectors had exacted no more from them than
 appeared in the public accounts, and than they were entitled to demand.—*Ibid.*

‡ Tálíka, or Tálíka—An inventory, a list of articles.—*Ibid.*

them for their *Wussall*. What you have done since your last, though truly in our judgements not very approveable, yet presuming you acted according to y^e best of your understanding for our Masters' interest, and y^t you may with y^e more courage and vigour now play your after game we doe not disapprove, but doe strictly as already hinted, caution you to be more vigilant and considerate in what you doe of this nature for y^e future, you being very well versed and understanding y^e trapping intrigues of these great men's durbars.

As to giving out money on cloth we cannot think it any waies adviseable while these troubles are overhead, and we uncertaine of y^e King's *Wmaund*, w^{ch} is the onely remedy now left us, wherefore we order you to forbear a while longer and to make it your business to attend y^e durbar, and though at all times we have done and now doe enjoyne to be very frugall in all your expences, yet as you will find it in your instructions not soe as to starve y^e business, especially at such a time as this where all lies at stake and y^e Nabob is much exasperated against us. If custome should once be insisted on for y^e past yeares we have treaded in these parts custome free (y^e paper you have given y^e Nabob treating of further demands to be made by y^e Nabob) it will then be better to have money then goods, however to attend y^e event a little longer cannot be we think amiss.

Wee are sorry y^e Comp^{ys} writing paper, &c., came to you soe damaged: however order you to make use of y^e best of it for all occasions and not this country paper which y^e cockroches, &c., eat up in a ycare or two's time. Y^e account of what paper, &c., received by you we ordered Mr. Littleton to send you haveing charged Cosumbazar factory wth it and w^{ch} you must credit. You may leave it in blank till you heare thence it being received by you this month and to be entered in your new bookes. Y^e old ones pray make up, and if there be any difference in y^e last invoice it shall be rectified with y^e other differences we shall find not onely in your bookes but also in y^e other factories w^{ch} in due time shall be advised you. Your diary especially in such troublesome times as these we order you to *Wfect* daily, y^t is, you must enter y^e daies transactions at night least it might be suggested that you frame your diary entring things a posterior not as they really are. We alsoe press you to send us weakly advices whither things be brought to an head or not; this delay having been prejudiciall in hindring us disposeing our letters to y^e Agency above eight or ten daies more then intended; in signing all papers obligatory if you find it may be convenient for our Masters bussiness (otherwise not), and if you can get time to have our Agent thereto it will be good you insist on it, be it onely to gain time, it being we concieve very improbable we or you should be able to comply in time wth this last *mochelkee* or papers you have given, and though possibly it had not been expedient for you to have denied to have given such a paper to y^e Nabob when he commanded it, yet it much imports you well to consider and compare things least by such an inadventury as this was, you be again drawn into y^e like dilemma. We call not else to mind and *Wsent* praying God for your good success in this great business, earnestly recommended to your utmost care and vigilance.

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 29th May 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

SIR,

Wee wrote you hence y^e 16th and 18th currant. By y^e former sent away our Coast packett w^{ch} hope you have sent as enordered. We have since received yours of y^e 18th ditto. wherein are sorry to understand y^t y^e Nabob of Orixá has given you new trouble on acco^t. of a yearly present he

expects from y^e Hon^{ble} Company but we hope by the second writing of your Amin * this matter will come noe more into question.

Wee shall be glad to heare you had (according to their promise) come to a conclusion with your merchants, as for a P^owanna from Decca there are small hopes, the Nabob having been soe informed and exasperated (as Mr. Hervy; &c., writes) by the Dutch and their Vacqueel Gungaram against us y^t he has in a manner denyed us his P^owanna, but we have written Mr. Hervy, &c., not to desist but as earnestly as over to endeavour y^e procury of one though it be onely to gaine time till a P^omaund may be gotten, of which Mr. Charnock from Pattana gives us better hopes. In y^e interim we advise you to keep as good correspondence as you can wth y^e P^osent Government there, and to endeavour to live quietly w^{ch} is all at P^osent from

Your loving ffrriends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

These letters to y^e Coast pray send away wth y^e samé care taken for their passage as ordered for the former.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

Hugly, 31st May 1678.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 20th currant since w^{ch} Nabob Auzzum died in Decca. Y^e news we received just now, and sent it you forward. If y^e Prince be to come downe you have now time to play your game for y^e best. Sha Shujah's neshauⁿ † shall send you if there be occation. Pray give full and quick advice of all things necessary that we may here take order accorbdingly. Y^e King's P^omaund pray hasten.

Your assured loveing ffrriends,
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

The Nabob died y^e 24th currant after 3 in y^e afternoon.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

Hugly 31st May 1678.

SIRS,

Our last to you was wth a packett for y^e Coast y^e 29th currant. This comes chiefly with a gen^l for y^e Worpⁿ Agent and Councell w^{ch} pray send after y^e packett so as this may goe with it to y^e Coast. Nabob Auzum Caun died in Decca y^e 24th currant at night. You must keep as faire wth Mirza Woolly as you can, but if he be unfeasonable advise, and we question not but to reconcile him hence; and rest

Your loveing ffrriends.
MATT^s VINCENT.
EDW^d READE.
EDM^d BUGDEN.

* Amin, Umeen, corruptly, Aumin, Aumeen, but occurring, slightly modified sometimes, in most of the dialects.—A confidential agent, a trustee, a commissioner; applied in Upper India especially to a Native Officer of Government employed either in the Revenue Department to take charge of an estate and collect the revenues on account of Government or to investigate and report their amount; or in the Judicial Department as a judge and arbitrator in civil causes. In the Presidency of Bengal in particular, two classes of native judicial functionaries are now so named or the Sadar Amin, empowered to try causes to the extent of Rs. 1,000 and Sadar Amin Ali or principal Sadar Amin to whom lies an appeal from the decisions of the Amin and who decides suits to an unlimited amount. Being Regulations IV, XLV 1793; VII, 1822; XXIII, 1814; IV, 1827; V, 1831; Act IX, 1844.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

† Nishán, H—A sign; a mark; an emblem; a signet; an ensign; a flag.—*Ibid.*

Hugly, 1st June 1678.

* MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was of y^e 28th ultimo. Yesterday came to hand yours of y^e 25th ditto wth y^e news of Nabob Auzzum Cawn's decease and y^t y^e Duan Hadjee Zoffe Caun began to act, &c. we desire you to returne us y^e two letters sent, y^e one to y^e Nabob, the other to his Duan Mazarool Moolke, both in their baggs as sent you, also as soon as you shall find you may have noe further occation for them, there pray returne us y^e Prince's neshoun wth Mozum Cawn and Shausteli Caun's *Pwana* by a couple of good pcons on purpose. Accompanying this comes our letter to y^e King's Duan above said, whose coppies is here enclosed, whose *Pwana* you must endeavour speedily to gett, and if you cannot otherwise prevaile you may give a mochelkee to produce y^e King's *Pwana* in seven months (as your former paper given him was willing) or else to comply wth his commands to pay custome according to y^e King's order. This *Pwana* pray gett and send us as soone as possible, we being questioned in all places now for want of one, and our business like to be stopped. If a question arises how an acco^t. shall be kept of our custome till this time be expired or we produce y^e King's *Pmaund* for our trading custome free, you may desire y^e favour y^t y^e Duan would order y^e Buckbunder of this port to take our entries w^{ch} we shall give him of our goods sent out of this port up into y^e country and brought downe out of y^e country hither according to w^{ch} an acco^t of custome may be made up, but whatever you doe, if possible to be avoided, order y^e business soe as y^t we may not be at the lash of our Governor here as y^t our boats should be to be searched and goods brought asshore at y^e custome house and there to be opened and weighed, for at y^t rate it will be impossible for us to trade both in respect of y^e great delays in time of shipping we shall meet with, as alsoe of endamageing and loss of our sev^l goods, we have not else to add, save y^t we are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.EDW^d READE.EDM^d BUGDEN.*Hugly, 3rd June 1678.*

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 28th May since w^{ch} we have received yours of y^e 30th do., advising of the death of Nabob Auzzum Cawn which we have recd y^e 31st from Decca, yours not arriving till yesterday about noone. By this Nabob's death y^e face of our Master's affaires is much altered we hope for y^e bettre, although we are certaine it will occation a fresh charge to them if any new Governour, and greater, if y^e Prince as tis y^e gen^l rogue comes to Bengall; we doe not much doubt in y^e interim to gett y^e King's Duan's *Pwana* for our free trade on our paper given him to produce y^e King's *Pmaund* in seven months' time, wherefore we reverse our order of y^e 28th ultimo and doe encharge you to give out money on and hasten all y^e Hon^{ble} Companies investments belonging to your residence, but with all enjoyne you to use all caution imagainable to prevent any damage what you can, w^{ch} may accrew both in relation to your weaver's late losses by y^e fire, as alsoe in respect to any money forced on them by Lol Beague for y^e deceased Nabob's acco^t. avoydeing those two and what else may occur to you. Being on y^e place we hope our Masters' investments may be now made wth indifferent security and accordingly recommend them unto you. We note what you write of your silke merchants' troubles, and hope they are at *Psent* gott cleare by y^e Nabob's death.

Wee are glad y^e doolies wth p^{re}sents are arrived at Pattana, but advise what is become of y^e hired servants who was to have brought us advise of it soe long agoe. Having not else to add remaine

Your loveing ffrriends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 8th June 1678.

MR. EDWARD LITTLETON, &c

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated y^e 3rd curreant, since w^{ch} are come to hand yours of the 3rd and 5th ditto and hope if we gott y^e King's Duan's p^{ro}wanna for our free trade, y^t by his favourable representation of us and our business to y^e next Governour we may not be much endamaged for want of y^e deccased Nabob's p^{ro}wanna. The 1st curreant we wrote to Decca sending a letter to y^e King's Duan therewith, giving them orders in what manner to apply themselves to y^e Hadgee for a p^{ro}wanna, and pray God they may have success. We take notice you did forward ours of y^e ult for Pattana.

As to the news you give us of the P^{ri}nce we are of opinion tis a mistake, for by a letter w^{ch} you saw and we received from Pattana of an old date it seemes to be contradicted. However shall get a p^{re}sent in readiness for him in case he should come, y^t soe we may not miss him as we did y^e late Nabob. They write from Pattana y^t there were sev^l missing out of y^e doolie of rarities, the chief of w^{ch} is y^e speaking trumpet, and y^e lace held out short. Pray enquire of your house peion y^t went with the doolies what should be become of y^e trumpett. Kindly saluting you, we remaine

Your loveing ffrriends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 8th June 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was of the 1st curreant, since w^{ch} we have received yours of the same date and are glad to understand y^t you have hopes of prevailing for a p^{ro}wanna wth the King's Duan. We wrote to him and directed you how to apply yourselves to him p^{ro} your last, and hope your endeavours will prove successfull. We order you to proceed carefully and cautiously in your giving out money on cloth in this unsetled posture of the country. We wish you had sold your gold as soone as you arrived there. We suppos y^e price is not risen but, rather in likelihood to be lower now when you shall sceme to have some necessity of selling.

Wee have alarum'd hero y^t the Prince is to enter Rajamaul in a day or two, and it has been written us from Cossumbazar, on w^{ch} we were thinking to consult together and provide to goe and meet him there, but from Pattana we have noe advice but of an old date, w^{ch} tells us y^t said Prince by much importunity gott leave of his father to come on hunting as low as Mungeer, and it may be on hearing of this Nabob's death he may have come on this side of y^t place which till we may heare further from Pattana about it all we can see in it. However least the King's p^{ro}maund should come to him in his hunting and he should pop in ere we are aware as the deccased Nabob did, we shall provide and attend his motion. We doe not heare nor think y^t if the Prince comes he will reside in Decca but in Rajamaul. We desire you to send the neshaun of Sha Sujah to

Cossumbazar, and if you have done with them, the other originall *Ṣṣ*wannas however pray send the former without faile and if you find a necessity for it take a copie attested by your Cozzee w^{ch} in all cases not very extraordinary will questionless serve. We call not else to mind save y^t we are

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

Hugly, 15th June 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

LOVEING FRIENDS,

Our last to you was of the 31st ultimo since w^{ch} came to hand yours of the 7th ditto not till the 8th currant, and yours of 30th ditto and 13th present month. We are glad the doolies of rarities came in safety unto you but admire the speaking trumpet should be missing, and have write to Cossumbazar about it, and the rest of the things wanting, and thence you will have an answer the lace being very rich is apt to contract and was scant measure when sent hence.

The Prince came very nigh Rajamaul in soemuch as it was expected from the Govern^r that he would have them entred, but he is now gone back and we looke for him about a month hence. We wish you had gott his neshoun for our free trade in Pattana. It might in likelihood have much facilitated of getting one here. If it can still be done pray endeavour it. We are glad you have received the 20,000 rupces lately sent by bill to you from Cossumbazar wither we have now written to find out the mistake in the broadcloth invoice and to rectifie and send it you. Your acco^t cash for March and April have received.

Wee received letters the 4th this month from our Masters of the 19th July last, from the President and Councill at Suratt of the 10th April, and from the Agent and Councill at Fort St. George of the 23rd last month. The first gives no news nor acco^t of any thing, the ships from hence and the Coast not being got home but gives full orders and authority to endeavour y^r procury of a phirmaund: commend to us y^r doeing of it wth all privacy without noise and with as little charge we can but yet soe soone as possibly wth convenience we can. Y^e President and Councill at Suratt by order from the Company give us instructions y^t we rather send up a native Vaqueel then an Englishman who can better unobserved apply himselfe to some favorite of the Kings and the sooner thereby effect our desires from Fort St. George. The Agent and Councill write y^t they are of opinion y^t by some great man's interest we may soone procure a Ṣṣmaund and accordingly direct us to apply our Vacqueel which is alsoe our opinion, all w^{ch} recommend to you. We have y^t Shausteh Caun is security for this Prince, and it may not be amiss if your Vacqueel shall see y^t a phirmaund will take more time to gett out then our this yeare's business will leave, y^t he get Shausteh Caun to write to this Prince effectually in our behalfe. We refer it to you soe to endeavqur to handle the matter as y^t out Master's business may not be stopped at this yeare it has hitherto. 'Tis noised here y^t Shausteh Caun has given the King a rowle of all his estate, and y^t he is made Vizier, has licence to gett before the King. We think him in many respects unfit to attend the quick motions of Sevage. Calling not else at Ṣṣsent to remembrance rest

Your loving friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Since the writing of the foregoing we received from Decca where they have given to the Duan a paper according to the enclosed Persian paper, and has taken copie Sha Shujah's neshoun to the Gen^l Nabob's Ṣṣwannas promiseing to write

in our favour to the King and to send all those copies to him. This pray advise your Vaqueell at Court off y^t he may have answers ready and apply himself accordingly.

Wee think to send you in a day or two more two letters, the one to Shaustoh Caun, the other to Ray Nundelal, his Duan, to stand our friends to the King when he shall on y^e Duan's letter speake of us, by all w^{ch} we hope to gett a P^rmaund the more easily. A P^rwanna for our free trade in the meantime we are promised and hope to gett in a few daies.

M. VINCENT.

E. READE.

Hugly, 18th June 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated the 8th curreant. We have since received yours of y^e 7th and 10th ditto. The great hopes raised in the former halfe quashed in the latter letter. As to your doubt in the matter of rups. 3,000 paid yearly in Hugly, tho' we commend your rediness y^t we judge the circumstances at P^rsent different to what they were in Mr. Clavell's time when he ordered you to gett off the said present of 3,000 rups. in case Shaustoh Caun would not agree to our trading without paying custome, for then our applications were wholely to him and his to the King in our behalfe, but we now have a Vacqueell at Dilly whome we may and shall direct in this affaire; y^t if the King, will not give us a P^rmaund custome free y^t then he send for a release for payment of the 3,000 rups. yearly present in this port, and this we suppose you could never get your Duan to doe nor has he power to release us, but by order from the King, which order our Vacqueell being there, is it may be better able by more frequent tryalls of sev^l waies w^{ch} he will find at court to procure then the Duan, wherefore we order you to take Hodgee Zoffee Caun's P^rwanna as soone as may be, and if he will not give it without y^e clause engaging us to make entries of our goods take it with that alsoe onely see by feeling the Mutsuddies about him, to gett it soe ywell and plainly penned as y^t we may not be engaged to opening or shewing our goods or to cauz or searching our boats, for then our troubles will be infinite in this port, and then we had almost as good have noe P^rwanna besides the gen^l P^rwanna. We find one Nb. 2 mentioning onely the trade in Decca w^{ch} we doe not accompt good by any means since in the gen^l all Bengalla and Orixâ is included and this will be apt to bring up bad custome and new peaches or trapans w^{ch} are what we can to be avoyded, wherefore order onely a gen^l P^rwanna according to No. 1 to be taken out, and with all expedition sent us, a great quantity of the Hon^{ble} Comp^{as} goods haveing hence here already sev^l m^{os} w^{ch} are wanted and would a great part of y^m have sold ere this in Cossum^b and Pattana. There has lately an accident w^{ch} we thought good to advise you off. A Mallacca Coffree a Renit^r or subject of the Hon^{ble} Companies at Bombay and soe noe subject of this country came hither lately in a ship belonging to the English from Suratt, a servant of the Commanders of said vessell. He one day in the open day was minded to wash, and because he could not swim went over the ship's side and tooke hold of the shoare fast of the ships and soe hung in the river, but growing too bold and endeavouring to goe on shoare by the said rope when he came into the midway between the ship and the shoare, by his weight the ship came nigher in and the rope came downe in the water which affrighted at he let goe his hold and sunk in ten fathome water, and was noe more seen till the fourth day after, when it being still water where he was drowned he floated, and giving annoyance to the ship the men-tyed a rope to his leg or hand and towed him out into the streame y^t soe he might noe further disturb them, but they not taking good notice it hapned to be floud of a spring tide and soe the body instead of goeing downe went up the river, and came ashoare just at the Meirbdes Gaut or lading place where the water ebbing left him ashoare, and those fellows y^t carried him out cutt the rope leaveing a part about his leg or arme by which he was taken notice off, and the Mutsuddies here would seeme to make something of it though he was seen thus to be drowned in the open day by a great

multitude of people. The fish had eaten him about the face and neck much which gives them occasion to frame he was a rich merchant and for his money, had his throat cutt aboard our ship and afterwards thrown overboard, we much doubt not best shall quash this here, but however thought good you should be acquainted with the truth of the business if it should ever be spoken off at Decca. We call not else to mind. Remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Hugly, 18th June 1678.

MR. JOB CHARNOCK, &c.

LOVEING FFRIENDS,

The 15th currant we wrote you last. These chiefly come to bring you the two enclosed. rough draughts of letters to Nabob Shausteh Caun and Ray Nundelol his Duan, w^{ch} you may peruse and add what you shall judge most propper to be incerted, and drawing them out faire you may send them to your Vacqueell at Dilly giveing him orders concerning them as you on good and due consideration of all things shall judge convenient. There is alsoe one thing more then we have hither advised to be written to Dilly, and y^t is in case the King will by noe means give us a \mathfrak{P} maund otherwise then on paying custome, y^t then our Vacqueel sues to get us released from paying rups. 3,000 as we have done all the time of our being custome free in his port. We recom^dend this, and enclosed papers to you, and remaine

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Hugly, 21st June 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated the 18th currant w^{ch} day we received advices from Rajamaul by Cossumbazar y^t the Prince, contrary to all expectations was arrived thither but he would not stay long there ere he visited Decca. We are intended to set out hence towards Rajamaul the 24th or 26th currant at furthest, sooner then w^{ch} feare shall not be able to gett \mathfrak{P} ticulers for presents ready wth other conveniences. If the Prince should, ere we arrive at Cossumbazar, be passed Meirdapore towards Decca, we shall stay there till we heare from you, and if the Prince makes but little stay as we suppose he will not at Decca, we intend at his returne to visitt and present him in Rajamaul; there will questionless be a necessity of yours appearing there before the Prince, where you may declare y^t the Chiefs was on his way to Rajamaul to waite upon him and present him, but learning \mathfrak{y}^t he was gone by to Decca and y^t he would not stay long there y^t he waited another opportunity at his returne to Rajamaul, in the meantime if by meanes of the King's Duans or any otherwise you can possibly procure his Neshaun, thought should be wth the same conditions in all respects wth what we directed you to take out the Duan's \mathfrak{P} wanna, pray doe it, that soe the stop may not last till our ships arrive, and our whole business lies stopped as it has continued many months, and though he should stay a month or more at Decca it will be convenient y^t we doe not meet him but at his returne at Rajamaul, for probably in the meanetime the King's \mathfrak{P} maund may come, when with one present we may get out his Neshaun well groundd, when

at best can we feare at p^rsent be but conditionall, and if we are forced to present him ere the p^rmaund comes he must againe be presented when it comes for his Neshauns before mentioned; but if on good enquiry and observation you shall find the Prince is resolved to take some longer stay there then at p^rsent is imagined he will, and y^t it will be prejudiciall to our Masters' affaires that he be not presented there, then send us advice to Cossum^b, and we shall waite upon him in Decca.

We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

Hugly, 26th June 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS.

SIR,

Our last to you was dated the 15th currant. You will have heard long since of the Princes' haveing the Government of Bengall bestowed upon him, and of his entrance into Rajamaul. We have advices y^t he is proceeded thence to Dacca, where he will not remaine long this day, therefore the Chief sets forward towards Cossumbazar to wait his commands whither to waite upon him at Rajamaul or Decca.

Wee have been given to understand y^t Tho. Pitt (who though ordered publikely by the Chief and Councell did not, proceed to ffort St. George last yeare) is engaged or does intend to enter himsef upon the ships of Noorola Cawn. We much admire at his boldness to think that he is under noe Government, for a man in his predicament thus to take service without licence first had from the Worpⁿ Agent and Councell at Efort St. George or at least from us; pray call him and admonish him openly in our name, and tell him y^t, we shall not have any man but must proceed this yeare to the ffort, unless he can procure the said Worpⁿ Agent and Councell's orders to the contrary, the Hon^{ble} Company having soe possitively and strictly enjoyned y^t he be sent hence, w^{ch} although he eluded last yeare, we purpose he shall not this. We call not else to mind, save y^t we are

Your very loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d READE.

EDM^d BUGDEN.

I have not heard of Tho. Pitt's engagem^t to Nooroola Caun.

Hugly, 26th June 1678.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

LOVING FRIENDS,

I being now by God's commission for sevⁿ considerations mentioned in our diary and consultation bound to Cossumbazar in reference to meeting and presenting Sultaun Auzzum leave this remembrance wth you, for your regulation in the carrying on the Hono^{ble} Companies affaires during my absence.

And first I desire you to keep exact correspondence advising why all things y^t shall happen in our business if any lie worthy communicating, and y^t you keep a diary in the usuall forms till my returne.

The Hono^{ble} Companies sloopes you may be sending away about the 5th next month that soe they may be ready in Ballasore Roode against our Europe

ships arrive, y^t soe if any come from England bound by Chrep^h to come to Hugly they may be proceeding without delay. You may alsoe send an invitatory letter to the commanders to venture up with their ships in the Chief's name alleageing the small difficulty and great advantage, &c. as you think best. However if they will not bring their ships, invite the Commanders up, that soe by coming on the sloopes and seeing the good depths of water they may be more willing if should come againe to these parts, it being the best way to bring our employer's designe in this p^ticular to pass by telling all the commanders if it can be see the uttermost of y^e danger. The sloop *Lilly* let goe alsoe wth the other sloopes and order her into Ballasore there to be fitted as designe by one of our English carpenters; writing our friends at Ballasore, useing all the frugallity imaginable here are a p^tcell of teak boards to line her cabin wth, all w^{ch} send by number downe on her, giving y^e master strict charge to be accomptable for them. Part of the Companies cash is delivered wth the cashbook of this factory to Mr. Reade, the other I carry with me (there being noe p^tsent Occation for it) to supply where shall find there may be most want and expences of the affaire I now goe about.

If any thing be here omitted on your advise or my calling it to mind it shall be spoken to from Cossumbazar. Wishing you much health remaine.

Your assured loveing friends

MATT^s VINCENT.

Cassimbazar 2nd July 1678.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

SIRS,

We have received yours of the 28th past (two of them); the former coming to hand the 30th the same day we arrived hither, the other the next day, both whose q^{ty} we observe and of the gen^l from Worp^h Agent and C^ouncell. You well know had it not been for want of due assistance, the confusedness we found, the gen^l bookes in, and want of health at the begining of the yeare not to name the continual troubles we have encountred ever since the ships departed, tis not to be questioned that all our acco^t had been ere now adjusted. The inland factories have also shared in the forementioned hindrances w^{ch} has alsoe brought them behindhand. We shall now write both to Dacca and Pattana for their bookes, wth which those of this factory shall alsoe come, and then you may shut up your bookes and draw out an abstract as alsoe a paper of differences to reconcile the gen^l and inland factory acco^{ts}. In the interim you had best begin new bookes, if not already done, and goe on wth them y^t soe the proper acco^{ts} of Hugly may not ly behind.

Wee are in hopes there is noe such thing intended as recalling the Prince, there being a report here y^t the last phirmaund from the King to him was in respect of his health, forbidding his residence at Decca, and ordering his very sudden returne to Rajamaul to live there w^{ch} if true will be very well not being in a readiness to meet him. If the ships should come up sooner then ordinary pray write up for all rarities y^t shall come this year and send us a quantity of what you may think will be most acceptable. Wee call not else to mind. Remaine.

Your Loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d LITTLETON.

Cossumbazar, 3rd July 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

Wee wrote you at large the 18th and 21st last month, to w^{ch} we have little to add save y^t we have received yours of the 17th ditto, together

wth Sha Shujah's Neshaun and the P^owannas as inlisted. We longingly expect your advices what has passed and is like to be your condition since the Prince's arrivall at Decca. We are told here y^t his stay there will be short and y^t a P^omaund from the King followed him to y^t purpose.

Your bookes of acco^{ts} if not already sent dispatch away to Hugly y^t we may shut up our bookes whose ballance y^e Worp^l Agent and Councell have written for in w^{ch} respect we are the more earnest wth you. Your advise we awaite and the Prince's returne wth whome by God's blessing we feare not to make up our business in w^{ch} pray give us best aims you can.

We remaine

Your loveing ffrriends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d LITTLETON.

If possible you can get out y^e late mochelkee you gave y^e late Nabob soe as it may not come to the Prince's sev^{ts} hands it would doe exceeding well least it may now have reference to our Masters' affaires.

Y^{dem}

M. VINCENT.

E. LITTLETON.

Cossumbazar, 3rd July 1678.

MR. RICHARD EDWARDS, &c.

SIRS,

Wee have not answered yours of the 30th ultimo till now ther being little materiall in it and expecting your diary, &c.

Wee heare the King's Duan at Cateck who is son to the King's Duan of Bengall, to whome the deceased Nabob was a grand enemy, if he had lived would have endeavoured his ruin, y^t the said Duan fled from Cateck for saere of the Nabob of Orixa, who otherwise have affronted him. You have done very well in waiting upon him, both he and his father here haveing alwaies been favorable to our business.

Wee hope by your silence y^t you have been makeing an end wth the Ballasore merchants w^{ch} we should be glad to understand, and especially now y^e ships are at our dores we pray God we may be able to bring the P^osent affaire in hand to a good issue ere they arrive. Haveing not else to add we remaine

Your very loveing ffrriends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d LITTLETON.

Wee have herewith sent you the 50 doller weight having rectified it to the weight of Rajamaul siccaes.

Y^{dem}

M. V.

E. L.

Cossumbazar, 4th July 1678.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was dated the 2nd curreant since w^{ch} is come to hand yours of the 1st ditto wth Ruggonaut, &c. Their acco^t concerning the

Cassas 1571 p^r we suppose you found not their rate in the warehouse book but onely the quantity, and we are somewhat doubtfull in y^t Mr. Matt^s Vincent has heard in Hugly that there was 1 rup. difference in every sort. You are to enquire into this matter and accordingly booke them.

The 100 rups. charged to their acco^t must continue soe, for if what entred into our bookes of acco^t comes to be questioned (as this leades directly to it), it will be of bad consequence and their deniell of receipt of y^t money will not make against our bookes, except all of them will swaere they never received such a summe in money or acco^t. What the lead sold them the 13th June 1677 was rated at then Mr. Reade must know, it being, if at Hugly, delivered by him, and the lead sold then the 15th December last could not be delivered then by Mr. Matt^s Vincent, he being then in Ballasore, and does remember y^t he agreed wth them at 8 rups. 3^p md. the 18th September last on the contract for Mullmulls, and we suppose the lead then delivered might be part of it. Ruggonaut being the most substantiall man of y^t gang it would doe well if you made that head Ruggonaut and Company.

If you paid them 1,000 rups. of what due to them pay them noe more till further orders, their being an acco^t between them and the late Chief of Bengall, w^{ch} shall suddenly adjust, and then make an end wth them: in the meantime they may goe to their houses.

The Mushariffe* came as you write from the King. Suppose is the same y^t we formerly heard of from Pattana, Mahmud Hushein by name. Pray endeavour to keep a faire correspondence with him; and if he can be p^rswaded to write favorably of us and our priviledges of trade in y^t part to the King it may be of good use to our p^rsent business at Court. We remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d LITTLETON.

Your bookes of 1677 being open we order you to enter Ruggonaut, &c., their acco^t into them, y^t soe they be as p^rfect as we can make them, and hasten Mr. Bugden to send downe the Ballasore bookes y^t they may be alsoe ready as soon as possible.

Y^dem

M. V.

E. L.

Cossumbazar, 7th July 1678.

MR. EDWARD READE, &c.

SIRS,

Our last to you was of the 4th curreant. Yours of the same date we have received together wth the Dacca genⁿ and the Duans p^rwanna by w^{ch} we have liberty to send goods againe up into the country. On receipt therefore of these we order you to send up hither all those sorts of goods we directed Mr. Bugden to be sent up to the inland faetories. The cloth you may send thence to Dacca, and whatsoever more shall be thought convenient may be sent or carried them hence. We call not else to mind. Remaine

Your loveing friends,

MATT^s VINCENT.

EDW^d LITTLETON.

* Mushariffe, correctly Mushrif—H. An Examiner; an Inspector; an Officer of the Treasury who authenticates accounts and documents.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*

Cossumbazar, 10th July 1678.

MR. SAMUELL HERVY, &c.

SIRS,

The 6th curreant we received yours of the 27th last month, and have hopes in few daies more to receive a full and definite answer to ours of the 21st ditto., as alsoe how you have fared with the Prince, and whether there will be a necessity for the Chief's Personall appearance wth a present ere he returns to Rajamaul as therein fully incited on.

The copy of the Duan's Pwanna (the originall being detained at Hugly) and the acco^t of expence of procuring said Pwanna we have received w^{ch}, considering the occasion we approve of conceiving you have well acquitted yourselves therein, and hope you will thereupon have since Pvailed wth the Prince for his Neshaun, w^{ch} you as well as we are very sensible, how well it would be, if could be gott without the last clause of entries at the ports; the Vacqueel at Dilly has full advices what we are and have been in doing in Bengall, there haveing been nothing come to knowledge necessary for him to be acquainted with but we have immediately to Mr. Charnock by him to be handed forward.

As touching a Pwanna for Dacca, or any other place in Bengall or Orixa apart for the gen^l Pwanna for which you seeme so much to pleade, we have well considered what you have alleaged therein, and upon mature deliberation are of the same mind as before, and doe hope that we well understand the nature of the thing fearing its bad consequence on our Masters' affaires; we were never questioned at Dacca till that unhappy Pmaund for the Duans, when in Dacca, Ballasore, and Hugly the Nabob Shausteh Caun, according to the King's command, ordered custome to be taken of us, w^{ch} made it necessary when he was againe Pswaded to favour us, y^t his Pwannas for our free trade should be issued out to all those places whither his prohibition had been formerly sent; but all this argues not y^t when it shall please God we have got the King's Pmaund and on it this Prince's Neshaun for our Masters' trade in Bengall and Orixa y^t we must still have Pticuler orders for any or all parts within said kingdoms, and we may further note to you y^t any such order will hold good but while the Psent Governour superintends, for upon change or removealls, you must have another from the next comes, w^{ch} may be inconvenient and as changeable as the gen^l Pwangees* or verball orders you mention, where Governours remove often as in Hugly and Ballasore, and if the Prince should dwell (as we are certainly informed he will) in Rajamaul, the future Decca Governour will be as subject to change as those of any other Government in the whole province.

That you should receive trouble in Nabob Auzzum Caun's time (who appeared very inveterate against us), or in the Psent unsettled posture of affaires, is matter of noe greater wonder, but must be gone through by every one in his station the best he can; and we must use our utmost endeavours in all places y^t noe bad examples or precedents though many (this of Shausteh Caun's being yet but one) be brought into use or custome to the prejudice or disadvantage of our Masters' affaires. Upon the whole we doe not think fit to revoke our order in this matter, but doe prohibit you to take out any such Pwanna or paper for any port of Bengall or Orixa apart; for though it may, in this unsettlement and as we may say, indisposition of our Masters' affaires, seem to give a present remedy and redress, yet 'tis next to a certainty y^t when they shall be curred, and (as we hope they suddenly will) have gathered strength againe, it will rather help to ruin them (as is the use of palliated and superficiall cures, or at best as physick in health) then give them any reall support or solid sustentation; if you must (as you say), though we have the King's Pwanna and this Prince's Neshaun, yet procure the Pticuler Pwangee or verball order of the immediate Superintendent at Decca, and money and time will be spent to gett that, it will in such case be your best way at the first to be a little expence of time, &c., extraordinary to gett said Pwangee once for all w^{ch} may be soe given as to last for all the time of any one man's government, and then by you againe renewed, by which means after the change of one or two Governours the Pwangee will grow customary, and our priviledges soe well

* Parwangee, correctly parwanagi—H. Permission; leave; license.—*Wilson's Glossary of Indian Terms.*